STRIPED BASS KILL HITS LONG ISLAND SOUND!!! *See News Story Page 5.*

The Long Island FISHERMAN

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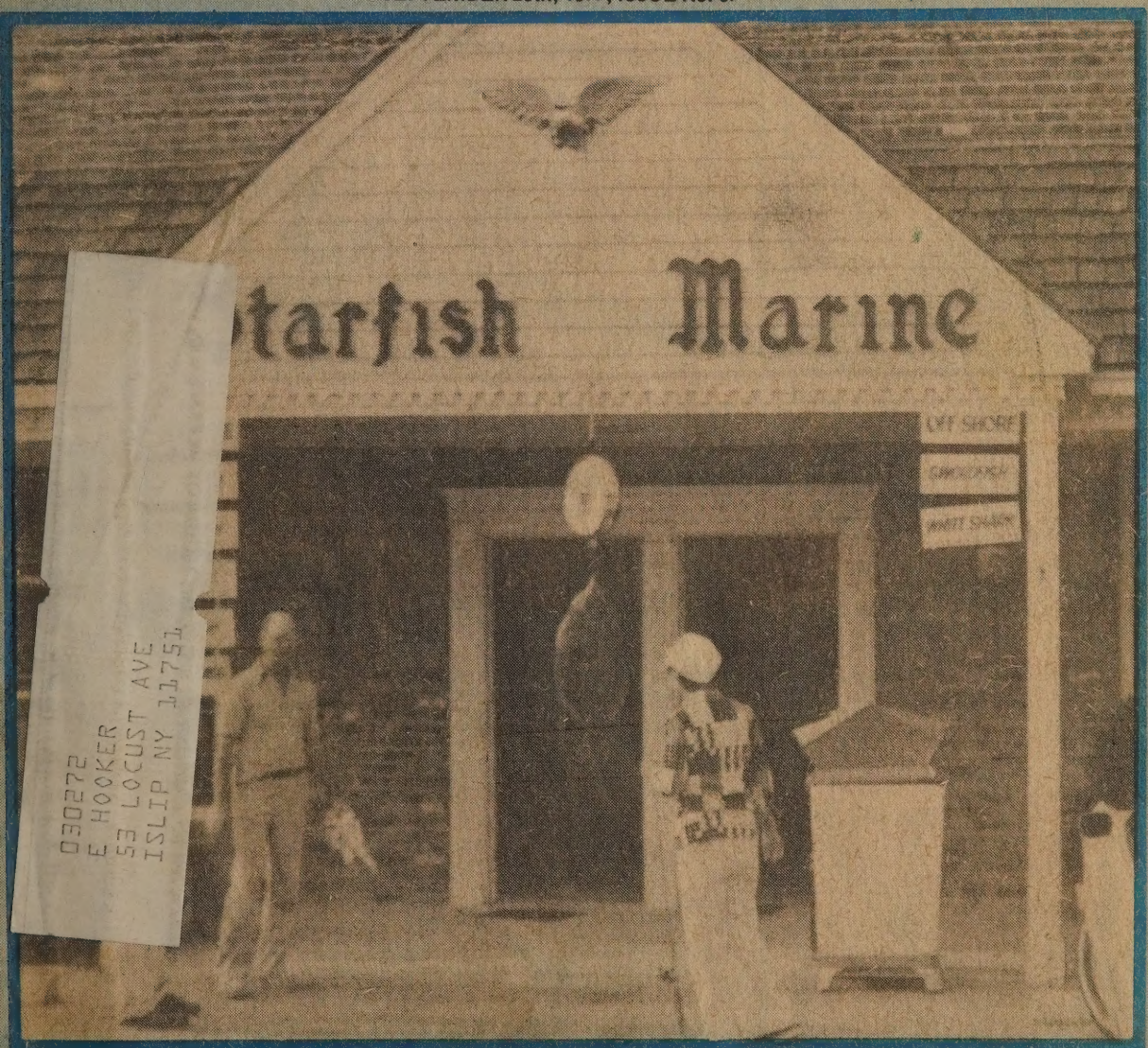
SEPTEMBER 29th, 1977, ISSUE No. 37



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The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

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COMING NEXT WEEK:

FLOUNDER FISHING

About the Cover—

Mabel Andretta beams at the 18 lb. 15 oz. doormat she caught hanging from the scales at *Starfish Marine*. The fish makes her the front-runner in the *L.I.F./Starfish Marine* fishing contest, and if the fish is approved by the I.G.F.A. as a new World Record, Mabel may win her choice of a Mako 20 or a Grady-White center console. According to the rules of the contest, the fish scores an impressive 18 points.

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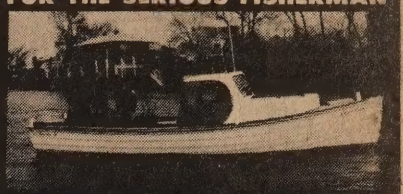

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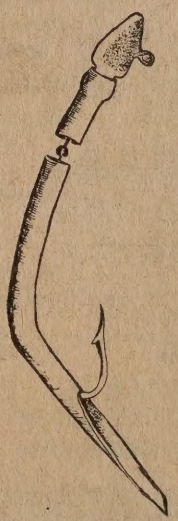

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★EDITORIAL★

IMMEDIATE ACTION NEEDED TO STOP FOREIGN MACKEREL QUOTA

The "minor" revisions in the Preliminary Management Plans (PMP) for species of interest to Mid-Atlantic and New England fishermen have hit us like a lightning bolt! After seeing the sad story spelled out by the NMFS stock assessment report, there seemed to be no question but that there would be no foreign fishing on the badly depleted mackerel stock. Indeed, Bill Gordon, NE Regional Director for NMFS, told the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, at its July meeting, that foreign fishing on mackerel was definitely out. The Council staff is presently preparing a Fishery Management Plan for mackerel and was, in view of the poor status of the stock, considering ways to keep the domestic harvest as low as possible without affecting the livelihoods of those traditionally dependent on the fishery. Our biggest worry at the time was how to get Canada to go along with restrictions on the total catch in order not to reduce the spawning stock any further.

In view of the foregoing, it was quite a shock to open up the PMP a few weeks ago and find that a 34,000 metric ton allocation was being proposed for the foreign fleets! The stock assessment information was the same, and the PMP concedes that the proposed quota will further reduce the already depleted spawning stock! The only justification given was the "serious impact" the lack of a mackerel fishery would have on the foreign fleets. It goes without saying that Congress had no such reasoning in mind when it created the 200 Mile Limit bill. The idea was to build up stocks that had been ravaged by foreign fleets—not to give those fleets a license to destroy!

Unfortunately, the law doesn't require that these changes in the PMP go through the public hearing process. However, Bill Gordon has promised that a few hearings will be scheduled. At the time this is being written, the time and place for a meeting in the New York-New Jersey area hasn't been settled. If last minute word comes in, you'll find notification on the front cover. The deadline date for comments is October 6, meaning that the meeting might be held in the next week and fall in-between **Fisherman** publication dates. If that happens, we'll do our best to get the word around. Such information should also appear in the daily newspapers.

In the meantime, you can do your part by submitting written comments before the deadline to Mr. Bill Gordon, Regional Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Federal Building, 14 Elm Street, Gloucester, Mass. 01930. Does what you say mean anything? Obviously it didn't mean much in terms of the present PMPs, as there was a great public uproar over last year's foreign quota on mackerel. However, we've just won a significant battle over the billfish and shark PMP (see National Scene for information on this; plus background on the mackerel situation), proving that public input can turn the tide at times. We did it in the battle for the 200 Mile Limit—let's pull together again to save the mackerel!

Pass It On...

IMPORTANT NEWS ITEM!!! STRIPED BASS KILL HITS LONG ISLAND SOUND

There has been a kill of striped bass in Long Island Sound. The first reports of dead bass were made about the first of September from the western Sound; however, these reports were not confirmed. The first confirmed reports occurred on September 12, 1977, but these fish had been dead for several days according to Mr. Cole Wilde, Chief of Fisheries and Wildlife, Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection. During the period of September 12 to September 21, 1977, Connecticut DEP reports several hundred dead bass were encountered. The bulk of the kill prior to September 20, 1977 was centered on the Connecticut Shore between Bridgeport and Greenwich. Although some fish in the fiven to ten pound range were found, the majority of the fish affected were over twenty-five pounds!

The fish were noted in three conditions: dead, swimming in snake-like motion at the surface, and up against the shore with fins out of water. According to Mr. John Poole, Senior Fisheries Biologist for the New York DEC, the kill was still going on as of September 20, 1977, with unconfirmed reports of dead bass from Westchester and Rhode Island too. Mr. Poole said that CEP had sent samples to Federal fisheries disease experts in several different locations. He also pointed out that the New York DEC was working closely with CEP and that the DEC was looking for specimens in good condition for analysis.

On September 22, 1977, we received a call from Mr. Jacobs, one of our readers, that dead bass had appeared on the Long Island side. He observed eight dead fish, between thirty and fifty pounds at Wading River and a friend counted twenty-eight dead fish—all over thirty pounds—at Baiting Hollow. We passed this information on to Mr. Chet Zawacki at the DEC. Mr. Jacobs had a fish in good condition and Mr. Zawacki picked up this fish for study.

The Fisherman has been in communication with Connecticut DEP and the DEC. We have passed on this information both to the Sportfishing Council and to Save Our Stripers.

It would appear that the cause of the kill is an infection. Other possible causes seem to be eliminated by the fact that the bass were the only species affected. Pollution, harvesting hazards, construction work, and water temperature inversions would affect more than one species. Some of the specimens that were found in good condition were observed to have brown patches on their gills and scientists are attempting to culture possible infecting agents from these. Fish which had been dead for a longer period were observed with grey blotches on the gills, but this would not be unusual since fungi and bacteria begin the job of decomposition shortly after death.

Apparently, the size of the kill numbers in the hundreds between September 12th and September 22nd, although there does seem to be a trend in the disease moving from west to east during that period in spite of three days of easterly winds.

We will keep you informed. We are working with many authorities and agencies on this one and we have volunteered our help. As more information is available, we will seek it out for you and pass it on to you. If you have any information, call us. If you have a specimen in good condition, call the DEC at 751-7900.

EAST HAMPTON TOWN INSTITUTES NEW PERMIT REGULATIONS FOR NON-RESIDENTS

Effective December 1, 1977, new regulations will go into effect for the use of East Hampton Town boat launching ramps. The schedule is as follows:

Non-Resident	$20/year
Residents	Free
Leasee	$5/year

The Non-Resident permit should interest many of our readers, especially those who wish to use the Lake Montauk ramps. Under past practices, Non-Residents were not permitted to use the ramps between Memorial Day and Labor Day. This year, the signs failed to come down after Labor Day and some of our readers complained of being ticketed. This prompted us to investigate.

The new permits can be obtained at the office of the Town Clerk, in person, at 159 Pantigo Road (Montauk Highway), East Hampton.

Furthermore, we suggest that anyone receiving a summons after September 20, 1977, contact **The Fisherman**.

A REMINDER TO OBEY ALL EAST HAMPTON TOWN ORDINANCES

We have been requested to remind beach buggy operators on East Hampton beaches to become familiar with, and obey, all Town ordinances. A copy of the ordinances can be obtained from the office of the Town Clerk in East Hampton.

Basically, this means adhering to the 10 mph speed limit, using appropriate access road to the beach, and driving your vehicle in a safe manner.

Adhering to the ordinances will help guarantee continued access for beach fishermen.

You are also reminded that questions relative to and permits for State and County Parks must be addressed to appropriate offices of the State and County. These include: park at Northwest Harbor, Hither Hills State Park, State Park at the Montauk Lighthouse, and newly procured property at Napeague.

PROPOSED CHANGES IN AIDS TO NAVIGATION

Present regulations require that any aid maintained and operated by the Coast Guard to serve the needs of

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★★★ NOTICE ★★★

OCTOBER 5th MEETING OF L.I. SPORTFISHING COUNCIL

The next meeting of *The Long Island Sportfishing Council* will be held on Wednesday, October 5th at 8 PM in the Holiday Inn in Plainview. Order of business will be: nominations for permanent officers and board of directors for the elections at the November meeting; preliminary committee reports from the three committees set up at the September meeting to advise the N.Y. Dept. of Environmental Conservation on gillnetting in Great South Bay, a saltwater fishing license, and the menhaden fishery. All members are urged to attend.

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commerce must be necessary for the safety of navigation, useful to commerce, of a substantial and permanent nature and be justified in terms of public benefit to be derived therefrom. The following aids are not thought to meet this criteria and are being considered for changes indicated: NEW YORK - SEACOAST - DISCONTINUE THE FOLLOWING BUOYS: Jones Inlet Bell Buoy 2 LLP 10, East Rockaway Inlet Approach Bell Buoy 4 LLP 10. Chart 12353. NEW YORK - ROCKAWAY INLET - Discontinue Rockaway Shoal Buoy 2 LLP 225. Chart 12350. Written comments on these proposals are solicited from interested parties. Objections should state the facts on which they are based and state specific needs for the retention of the aids. Responses should be addressed to Commander (oan), Third Coast Guard District, Governor's Island, New York, N.Y. 10004 and should arrive prior to October 31, 1977.

COASTAL DIVING ACADEMY PLACES BUOY AT KISMET

The Coastal Diving Academy placed a buoy on the eastern end of the Kismet Ocean Reef last week. The activity was paid for by the Academy, but the buoy will benefit fishermen and boatmen, as well as divers.

On behalf of our readers, we extend thanks to the Coastal Diving Academy.

CHUM LINES

READER COMMENTS ON SEPT. 8TH EDITORIAL

I have just read your editorial in the September 8th issue of L.I.F., and I would like to make a few comments.

First, let me say that I live in Queens and do not belong to any fishing club or organization. I am a "loner" chasing the elusive bass with only one or two friends.

I wholeheartedly agree with your editorial, but must take exception to your opening statement. You complained that only three other concerned citizens showed up for the N.M.F.S. meeting on August 16th, even though announcement was made in several papers—yours included. I agree that the commercials and local clubs should have been there, but the meeting was held in Montauk and that is a 200-mile round trip, four to six hours driving, plus the length of the meeting. All on a weekday night!

There are many of us out "west" who would like to have been there, but time and jobs prevented us from showing. Maybe if there were a few meetings held closer to the city, we would be able to participate. I know I would like to put in my two cents.

Therefore, please do not berate the entire fishing fraternity because the guys in "Fishing Country" don't give a damn.

In the meantime, please continue to fight for us and maybe the rest of us will

The Long Island **FISHERMAN FISHING TRIP CONTEST**

The Long Island Fisherman Litter Box Contest gives our readers a chance of winning a fishing trip for two on the open boat of their choice and a $10 cash prize. All the fisherman has to do is stop in at one of the better bait and tackle centers and pick up an L.I.F. Litter Box for the rear window of your car. Each week the license number of a car spotted with a litter box will be published—if it's yours, call The Fisherman by 5 P.M. that Friday and tell us the make and model of the car and you're a winner! If no call is received, the cash prize will accumulate.

★ *Bonus Prize* ★

Contest winners also will receive a NAFABCO GIMBAL ROD BELT. the new lightweight unbreakable plastic gimbal for boat & surf!!!

LAST WEEK'S WINNER:

There was once again no winner for our contest, so next week's winner shall receive $40 instead of the usual $10 plus a free fishing trip for two aboard a boat of his/her choice.

THIS WEEK'S WINNING LICENSE PLATE NUMBER IS:

SQ-37

Weekly winners of the L.I.F. Litter Box Contest may chose a trip for two aboard one of the following boats as their prize:

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Viking Star	Speedy VI	Amberjack IV	Port Jeff Ace
Peconic Queen III	Capt. Ben Litwin	Chief	Betty W
Marlin III	Capt. Joseph Fleet	FREEPORT Aloma II	

get off our duffs and help.

One last thing. If possible, could you please run a few articles about the West End of Long Island, because that is where a lot of us are. **Ronald P. Roth**

We're glad that you read our editorials with such interest and appreciate that you have taken the time to write to us about them. I'm afraid, however, that you have misunderstood some of the intent of the criticism about a poor turn-out at a recent hearing conducted by the National Marine Fisheries Service at Montauk. These hearings have been ongoing, and at different times, have been held at various locations in the metropolitan area. We were critical of the poor showing at that meeting, but we did not intend to presume that fishermen from New York City should travel to Montauk for such a meeting. It is true, however, that in the past some concerned fishermen have traveled from the east end to the west end and vice-versa to make their feelings known at these hearings. We encourage anglers from all over the area to attend important meetings, but at the same time, we recognize that for many, a long trip is a severe hardship. Keep an eye out for meetings in your area and your support at these would be very beneficial for the habitats and fish species that we prize, as well as all the citizens of our area. **Dr. W.A. Muller.**

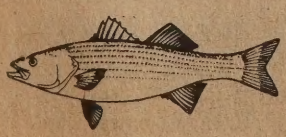
DICK MERMON OFFERS MORE INFO ABOUT LIDO

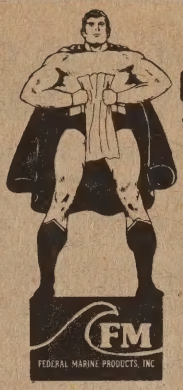
Just a little information about Mr. David Curti's article on "Baitfishing at Lido Beach."

We old-timers of the jetty jockeys of Long Beach have the names for the four groins which he speaks about. The last rock pile towards the east end of Lido Beach is called, naturally, the "East Wall." Working westward, the next stones are the "Sunken Jetty," because of the sand build-up and rock separation. This structure was pretty hairy to jump when the tide flooded. Next to that was the "Pipeline," because of a drainage pipe which was there. Last of all was the high stones and held the title, "West Wall."

All of these stones were, and still are, difficult to fish from without some sort of creepers attached to the feet. Your fishing readers, who may inquire more about these stones from some of the oldies such as Joel Abromson, who works in the Deep Six Restaurant, Island Park; or maybe even Ronnie Lepper, if he can still remember his early days of surf fishing along the old stones of Long Beach. **Dick Mermon.**

As usual, the depth of your fishing knowledge amazes us. I think that I speak for all our readers when I offer thanks for this additional information. **Dr. W. A. Muller.**





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NATIONAL SCENE

NEWS & NOTES ON THE WORLD OF FISHING
with Al Ristori

In fisheries, as in life, you win some and you lose some. The object is to keep the losses down—and, basically, we're doing fairly well in that department. This brings us to the current pluses and minuses. The plus is a really significant one, but the minus is very bad news for the fishery—if we let it happen!

First: the good news. As I noted in a column last month, the Preliminary Managment Plan for billfish and sharks was deficient in several respects. Due to the tuna exemption in the 200 Mile Limit law, we have no choice but to permit the Japanese (and anyone else for that matter) to continue longlining off our shores. However, since we do have authority over all species other than the tuna family, we can insist that all fish under our jurisdiction be released. While the original PMP had the "no retention" concept as its cornerstone, I objected to the language used, as it would permit the longliners to boat the billfish before returning it. During our discussions with the Japanese longliners this winter, I got the impression that they were very reluctant to lose any hooks or rigging. However, if billfish or sharks are brought on deck, it's unlikely that many will survive their release. Fortunately, the latest draft of the PMP incorporates the language I suggested last month: that the billfish and sharks must be "released in the water."

Of major importance to anglers in our area was the action taken in regard to sharks. As noted in my column, the shark information given in the original PMP seemed to be plucked out of the air. I could find no basis in fact for the 31,000 metric ton allocation of sharks to the longliners, and also attacked the allocation on the basis of it being unscientific, in that all species of sharks were treated as if they were one and the same. After re-evaluating the data base, the planners found that the figures they were working with covered the entire Atlantic. The maximum sustained yield figure was lowered considerably, and the foreign quota reduced from 31,000 metric tons to only 1,200 metric tons! Furthermore, the major sport species—mako, blue and porbeagle—are completely protected under the same "no retention" clause as the billfish!

A third major gain involving the billfish and sharks won't be found in the PMP. The August column noted that, during the State Department negotiations with the Japanese in July, I kept trying to get the State Department representative to tell them that the retention of species other than tuna was illegal—even without a PMP in effect. My interpretation of the law is that a PMP declaring a surplus must be approved; the State Department must make country by country allocations of the surplus; and permits must be issued (and fees paid)—all this before any species, other than tuna, can be retained! The State Department attorney didn't disagree with this interpretation, but I just couldn't get them to lay it on the line to the Japanese that we were simply being "good guys" in not seizing their vessels right now.

Fortunately, all this has changed. At State Department negotiations with the Japanese in mid-September, our chief negotiator, Carman Blondin, presented a letter to the Japanese that was written by House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee Chairman John Murphy (D-N.Y.) to Secretary of Commerce Juanita Kreps. In that letter, Murphy stated: "I think you should make it clear to these officials at that time (the Japanese negotiators at the September meetings) that the 200 Mile Fishery Zone Act will be strictly enforced and that any future retention of billfishes caught pursuant to fishing for tuna, will be dealt with strictly and offenders prosecuted." The Japanese were also shown a letter from Bob Schoning, NMFS Director, to the State Department indicating that rigid enforcement of the law would begin on October 1. Needless to say, the Japanese were taken aback by this news. For the first time, they seemed to be aware that we were really serious about this business and couldn't be put off simply by scheduling new negotiations every other month!

In the case of the billfish and sharks, tremendous progress has been made simply because a few voices were raised in protest. Turnouts at public hearings in our area were poor (mostly due to lack of publicity from NMFS), but those that did show up can take pride in their accomplishment! I'm particularly pleased with the improvement in the shark situation, as I was the only Council representative at the State Department negotiations and Inter-Council Billfish Steering Committee meetings to protest the original allocation. Since shark fishing isn't nearly as popular in other areas, it was up to us to get this section of the plan changed—and we did it! I'm emphasizing what we've just accomplished because the remainder of this article is about what we've got to do about the mackerel PMP—and why we've got a chance to win, if we get together and make ourselves heard (see **Editorial**).

Last winter we protested the foreign allocation on the declining stocks of mackerel. We maintained that the allocation would lead to a further decrease in the spawning stock and result in poor fishing during the spring run along the mid-Atlantic Coast. The politics of the situation prevailed over common sense. The intent of the law was ignored and the outlandish ICNAF quotas allowed. As we predicted, the spring run was poor (after the Russians raped the fishery in January and February—probably taking more than their allocation again), and the latest NMFS stock assessment report confirms that the spawning stock is in at historic lows!

According to that report, "the USA spring bottom trawl survey has shown a continuous decline since 1968 (when the foreign fleets started putting maximum pressure on the mackerel populations), and decreased 37 % from 1976 to 1977." Total stock biomass, estimated at 2.4 million tons in 1969, declined to 525,000 tons in 1977. Spawning stock size, estimated at 435,000 tons this year, is expected to be further reduced to 402,000 tons next year due to the excessive quotas permitted this year. What does this mean to the angler? When stocks were at their peak, the estimated angling catch was over 33,000 metric tons. This year it will probably be less than 5,000 metric tons!

The stock assessment report concluded that "a zero catch in 1978 would result in a 6% increase in spawning stock biomass in 1979. A catch of 23,500 tons would maintain the 1979 spawning stock at the 1978 level." In view of these facts, the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council went ahead with preparation of its fishery management plan for mackerel at a leisurely pace, as NMFS N.E. Regional Director, Bill Gordon, assured us that there would be no foreign fishing on mackerel next year. The only question seemed to be whether we could stop the fall season for the foreign fleets that still have 1977 quotas. Over 30,000 metric tons is still to be taken out of this depleted stock, when we know that a total catch next year of merely 23,500 tons will simply maintain the poor status quo!

While the Council was grappling with means of holding down the domestic catch and hoping that something could be worked out with Canada on this shared stock, NMFS suddenly produced a PMP calling for a foreign allocation of 34,000 metric tons. The fine hand of my friends at the State Department is evident here, as it's conceded that the quota will result in a ten percent reduction in the spawning stock, but is necessary as the foreign fleets would be seriously impacted if they couldn't continue their mackerel fishery! Some people in government got away with that kind of reasoning in the past, but I never thought we'd see it in a plan after the 200 Mile Limit bill was passed. The mackerel PMP violates the spirit of the law—if not the letter. It's particularly ironic that the interests of the foreign fleets that created the problem are being placed ahead of those of American citizens!

Needless to say, we're going to fight this one to the last straw. The Mid Atlantic and New England Councils will help carry the fight, but we need your help in order to do the job. This isn't simply a matter of rebuilding a depleted

Continued on page 18.

FISH TALK

with Dr. William A. Muller

STRIPED BASS

WE HAVE ALREADY CONSUMED SEVERAL COLUMNS discussing striped bass. It's easy to fill page after page with facts, fiction, and fantasy about this beloved game fish. We have examined the reasons why the striper exerts so much charm on fishermen and in the marketplace, and I guess that we'll find something to write about as long as this fish swims in the ocean.

STRIPERS GETTING WEAKER? Some saltwater warriors have remarked that it is their opinion that striped bass are becoming increasingly less aggressive. They claim that fewer and fewer of the beasts are willing to come to the surface to attack a surface working plug and when diamond jigs or some other deep-working lure is used, the fish seem to lay on the lure rather than smash it. I doubt that this means that stripers are getting weaker, but I do not doubt that their observations are accurate. I think that competition, or more precisely, the lack of competition is the culprit. You can blame their lethargy on PCBs, Kepones, sewage, or anything else if it makes you happy to do so, but I don't think that's where it's at!

LET'S LOOK AT COMPETITION. Each species has their own niche and it is specific to their evolution and their need to survive. It's like a compromise, where the strengths and weaknesses are balanced against needs, and the end result is a way of life. Each species has its habitats as well. At times when the fish are plentiful these habitats may overlap, but there are still places that are known as "bass haunts" and other places where you may never catch a bass but where bluefish may be an everyday event. Why do weakfish abound in the Peconics and Great South Bay, Delaware Bay, and Narragansett Bay, while few specimens of other species are taken? Habitat preference! The same is true of striped bass!

THE MONTAUK EXPERIENCE! Whether you have ever fished at Montauk or not, whether you have ever heard of the place, is not important. Suffice it to say that Montauk is a fishy place at the tip of Long Island. Fishermen have flocked there for centuries because the fishing is great. This year, the battle lines have been drawn so precisely at Montauk as to be astounding. Bait has been plentiful; mostly sand eels, but with good amounts of anchovy. Bluefish and weakfish were stacked up slightly offshore, glutting themselves on the banquet. The area is between Block Island and Montauk Point. The bottom is fairly uniform, and it's no place for a self-respecting bass. The offshore-inshore migrating weaks and blues, however, found it to their liking and with the bait just flooding the place, they stayed for many weeks. Bass were taken from time to time, on the inshore grounds—most of which are within one-half mile of the shoreline. True, there were times when bass, blues, and weaks shared the inshore limelight, but these were the exceptions rather than the rule.

THE BASS LIKE THE UNEVEN INSHORE BOTTOM and so when the schools did move through, they were caught there. Now, the bass population is down and this is generally accepted in most circles. The huge 1971 year-class has been thinned by harvest, diseases, predation, and the rest of the usual factors. There are few little fish around and the bigger fish are not as abundant as they were as a year-class first entering the fishery. Thus, competition among the bass is slight. The waters are loaded with bait and the living is easy. There exists no madness in the feeding flurries because there are fewer fish to beat them to their meals. They swim easy and live very casually. There is no urgency. Thus, a diamond jig lowered in front of their noses during a feeding flurry may be half-heartedly inhaled; no savage strike and more than likely a disappointing fight. The same holds true for the beach fisherman, especially when he or she finds a bass with a hunk of bait. However, when blues or weaks wander into the territory of the bass, the level of competition increases markedly and the fisherman may find the bass to be hitting hard and fighting with the alacrity that they are famous for!

MY OWN EXPERIENCES HAVE BEEN SIMILAR. I have caught many doggy bass this year, especially when I have picked them from a "bass haunt" where bait may have been meager or non-existent! However, there were a few occasions when I have gotten into bass when the water was alive with bait and weakfish. Thousands of weakfish rolling at the surf-line ingesting tens of thousands of sand eels. Here, the competition is keen, because numerous weaks put the pressure on the bass. If the stripers want a meal, they have to work for it. The result was bass that smashed surface swimmers right out of the water and stopped a tin dead in its tracks.

STRIPERS MAY OFFER GOOD FISHING THIS FALL! Even though the stocks of stripers are way down, I don't think that things are as dismal as they appear. Bass fishing up north at Cape Cod was good this summer, especially from the beach. This may mean that the bass are preferentially taking up residence on their familiar inshore grounds after several seasons of offshore migration. We'll forgive the bass, won't we fellas, as long as they make up for past indiscretions this fall. But the bait is back and it's plentiful inshore, which we hope will mean that the bass will migrate along the surf-line the way the books say they do!

STRIPERS ARE SMART! All indications point towards that fact. These fish are apparently smarter than we give them credit for. Anybody who has ever gotten into a huge school of actively feeding small bass might disagree with that statement, because fish of this standing are easy marks—but competition is the moving force here, too. If the schools are large, there exists keen competition for the available food. A bass cannot afford to look a bait over before striking. There must be instantaneous recognition and decision. Now, if that bait is a lure or some artificial offering—you've got 'em. So let's dismiss that case. But anyone who has watched a bass feeding in the shadow line of a bridge has got to be impressed with their I.Q., and then, too, netters tell us that it's hard to take bass in a gill-net because the bass swim around it. Bass also are able to adjust to changing times. They are less likely to migrate when bait fish are not abundant. Instead, they'll try to make a living off the bottom, eating clams, crabs, eels, and anything else that they can suck into their mouths. Why do we bring this up?

LURE AVOIDANCE IS AN IMPORTANT BASS CHARACTERISTIC. Try to fool bass in crystal clear, calm waters and you're in for a period of frustration, especially if competition is low. Use the same lure everyday for several weeks and the bass are likely to ignore it. Remember, when competition is low, the bass will eye the bait very carefully before inhaling it. This means that they have every opportunity to discover flaws in the action and to see the hooks dangling from it.

SHARPIES CHANGE COLORS! One of the keys for the successful striped bass fisherman is his or her intuition. They know when a color change is called for. The same model and maybe even the same size, but by changing the color they may pick out a fish. Intuition also may dictate the use of live bait when competition is low and the fish are wary. A properly rigged live bait may fool a bass just long enough to induce a strike.

LETTING THE WATER REST! A good bass fisherman knows when bass are around. This decision is reached via intuition, log records, and little telltale signs on the water. The good bass fisherman also knows that presenting the same lure over and over in the same place may increase the fish's ability to avoid the offering. So they'll move to another spot for an hour or so, and maybe they'll alternate fishing spots from day to day; this is especially important in shallow water. When I first started fishing the surf, I was amazed that a good fisherman would sit down and watch the stars for an hour, even though he had taken several fish in the hour that preceded. Finally, I had one of these wise, salty types come over and tap me on the shoulder. "Let the water rest awhile, son." he said, and directed me to a rock!

A good-sized cardboard box, low enough for you to stand over, will also smoke fish with satisfactory results. Mark off the rod or dowel holes the same way as the drum and open with a pocket knife.

Cut off the bottom flaps and carefully unfold the ones on top. After the fish are inside, these flaps are folded back, making an effective seal. Place on level ground and cut a small hole near the top away from the prevailing wind, allowing the smoke to escape. Place a twig under the bottom on the same side for draft. Sometimes when using a cardboard box, it may be necessary to pack loose sand or dirt around the bottom to lessen the draft. Caution should be the watchword when using a cardboard smoke-house. It is at best a one or two-shot affair and should be considered a potential fire hazard.

Sinker Bouncing

with Matt Ahern

SMOKE YOUR OWN FISH

Part Two

You won't be able to leave it unattended as with the metal drum. Should the smouldering wood receive too much draft, as from a sudden gust of wind, it is quite likely to flare up and ignite the cardboard. I have frequently used these and when proper precaution is taken, they have always given good results.

What kind of fish can be smoked? The answer to that is simple: any edible fish you catch will be found satisfactory, and this includes sea robins, cusk eels (congers), and the lowly bergall. Sea robin tails are especially good, as are skinned blowfish tails. There is something about the flavor of smoke that magically transforms a normally poor tasting fish into a gourmet's delight and I wouldn't be surprised to find dogfish have been given the treatment more than once.

Fish used for smoking should be fresh as possible. Fish can be held for future smoking by deep freezing if fresh, but when smoked, these fish should be eaten first. Don't refreeze. If you do, they are apt to crumble apart upon re-thawing, plus suffering a loss of its delicate flavor.

Smoked fresh fish may be kept in the deep freeze if wrapped tightly with freezer paper. Those that are stored in the refrigerator can be held for several days without loss of flavor. Be sure to wrap securely, or seal the container as tightly as possible. If this is not done, other foods stored in the refrigerator are sure to pick up the strong smoke aroma.

Mackerel, whiting, ling, snappers and eels are the most popular of the many fish smoked by local fishermen. No matter what fish are used, the results are always satisfactory when proper preparations are undertaken.

Select fish of uniform size. Go through your catch and remove any that are not firm and fresh-appearing. Those weighing about a pound are the easiest to handle. Fish must be immersed in brine for a prescribed length of time and when of approximately size, all can be removed at once, saving time.

Because of this, it is best to select a cool, dry day for smoking. Avoid humid days if at all possible. This often makes it difficult to dry the fish after they have been brined.

Gut your fish and wash **thoroughly**. This gutting is easily done by first removing the head at the gill cover and then slicing between the pectoral fins to the vent. It can also be done by grasping the head and sticking the point of the knife through both sides just aft of the pectoral fins and slicing at an angle to the vent. The head is then removed. This latter method removes most of the entrails with one slice.

Any remaining pockets of blood must be removed. A small, stiff bristle brush similar to a toothbrush is ideal for these hard to get at spots. Should any large amount of blood be overlooked, it's sure to leave a bitter taste to the surrounding meat.

Always leave skin and scales intact. This also applies to any fillets you wish to smoke.

Salt is used for brining, but how much to use? This is up to individual taste, plus size and thickness of fish. The method I use is simple: fill a container with water enough to cover the fish. Drop in a small, raw potato and add salt. Though not necessary, coarse Kosher salt is best. Keep stirring and dissolving the salt until the potato floats to the surface. Add your fish, and that's all there is to it.

Be sure all salt is dissolved. You'll find this brine strong enough to draw out any remaining blood, besides removing most tissue water from the fish.

Don't use a metal container for brining, unless it is enameled. Use one of plastic or wood; a large stone crock is ideal.

How long should you leave the fish in the brine? This can only be answered correctly by experience, but I have found three to four hours strikes a happy medium. THis depends upon size of fish—larger fish needing comparable time for proper curing and preserving. Stirring occasionaly will ensure proper distribution of the brine over the fish.

The time given is only for fish in the round. Fillets are brined only an hour or slightly more, depending on thickness.

When brining time is completed, remove the fish and wash under running water for a minute or two. This time should be kept at a minimum.

The important step of drying comes next.

As noted before, this is best accomplished on a dry day. The fish must be hung in the shade and the best way to do this is to knot a two-inch loop in a piece of string and secure around the tail by inserting one end of string through the other to form a sliding hitch. Hang in the breeziest part of your yard and leave until a sheen is noticed.

This glossy surface is called the pellicle and denotes drying is completed. If sufficient moisture is not removed, the fish will steam in the smoker, often dropping off the rods.

Dry fillets skin down by placing over screening.

Eels are great smoked, but their preparation is slightly different than other fish because of the slime which must be removed before brining. No problem, though. Make a strong brine solution of salt and soak the eels in this until slime is loosened. You should check while this is going on. Don't leave them in any longer than necessary. Blackfish can also be slimed this way.

You can now gut the eels, but don't skin. Because of this tough skin, eels require a longer brining time than other fish, the length of time depending on size of eels. This will have to be found out by experimentation. Try one batch for five hours, another at six, until the desired results are obtained. This is what I did at first, and it worked out fine.

There are two types of smoking—hot and cold. Hot smoking, where the fish are cooked and smoked in one operation is the easiest and quickest. This is the method discussed.

Use only hard wood. Any of the soft-wooded pines will give you an unpalatable job. Use hickory, oak, maple, or any of the fruit woods—particularly apple and cherry. Especially is this so when smoking light-skinned fish such as snappers. Apple wood will give them a most desirable appearance and a taste that can only be described as ambrosia.

Be sure to remove any heavy bark and don't use wood that is rotted or pulpy—you'll get a bitter taste.

Some fishermen build a small fire of twigs and then gradually add to it to get the necessary heat and then smother it with hard-wood sawdust. This is good, but too time consuming. This is how I do it:

Secure a discarded loaf or cake pan and fill it one-third full with charcoal briquets, forming a slight pyramidal shape. Ignite with charcoal lighter fluid and allow to burn until flame goes out and odor disappears.

Cover heavily with hard-wood branches, cut or broken into proper size to fit inside pan. Put in as many as possible, using slightly larger pieces on top. This will immediately send off heavy clouds of smoke. Remember—dry wood will give more heat. Green wood, though, will give off more smoke, and this is what you want.

The fish are now hung on the rods with the same loops of string used for drying. If the fish have been cleaned in such a way that the belly flaps are intact, insert a toothpick to keep them apart. Place the smoker over the now-smouldering fuel.

Actually, except for replenishing the fuel when necessary, all that is needed now is to allow the fish to remain in the smoker for the proper amount of time.

Like brining time, this knowledge is only gained by experience. But this doesn't mean you won't do a first-class job on your first attempt. Simply keep the heat at 110 to 120 degrees for the first two-and-a-half hours, then allow more draft at the bottom of the smoker and raise the temperature to

(Continued on page 12.)

ADVANCED SNAPPER FISHIN'

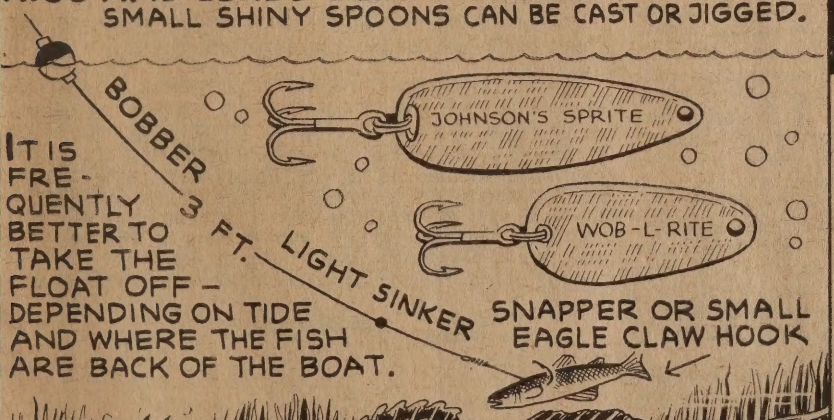
SNAPPERS ARE BABY BLUEFISH BORN OUT AT SEA IN JUNE AND AT ONE YEAR OF AGE WILL BE 16 INCHES LONG. WHEN HALF THIS SIZE THEY APPEAR IN OUR BAYS AND HANG AROUND DOCKS PROVIDING GREAT SPORT DURING AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER.

AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER AND WELL INTO OCTOBER, AT A SIZE OF 10-12 INCHES, THEY MOVE OUT TO DEEPER WATER. FOR THESE YOU NEED A *BOAT AND BUNKER CHUM.*

BY FRED GUARDINEER

ONCE THE SNAPPERS ARE BACK OF THE ANCHORED BOAT IN THE CHUM LINE THEY CAN BE CAUGHT ON BAIT OR CASTING LURES. THEY BITE ON *SPEARING*, KILLIES, BUTTERFISH, SQUID, WORMS AND YOU NAME IT. SOMETIMES THEY TAKE ONLY BITS OF CLAM!

RIGS AND LURES USED WITH LIGHT TACKLE.
SMALL SHINY SPOONS CAN BE CAST OR JIGGED.

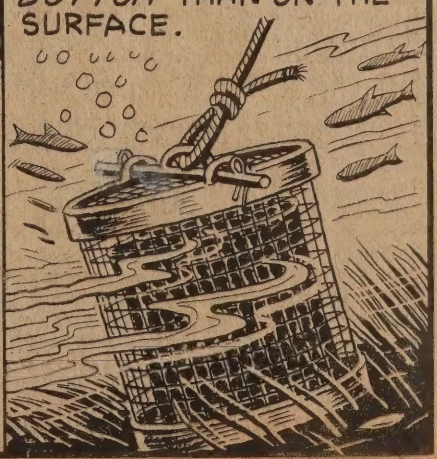


IT IS FREQUENTLY BETTER TO TAKE THE FLOAT OFF — DEPENDING ON TIDE AND WHERE THE FISH ARE BACK OF THE BOAT.

BONUS FISH ALSO CAUGHT ARE FLUKE, SEA BASS, PORGIES & WEAKS STILL AROUND.

SNAPPERS READILY COME INTO A CHUM SLICK FORMED BY HANGING A CAN OF FROZEN BUNKER CHUM OVER THE SIDE AND LETTING IT MELT.

SMALL ONE GALLON CAN WILL LAST 3 OR 4 HOURS. FITS INTO A CHUM POT OR CAN BE WIRED ACROSS THE TOP BY PUNCHING NAIL HOLES ALONG THE RIM OF THE CAN. IT OFTEN WORKS BETTER ON THE *BOTTOM* THAN ON THE SURFACE.



Surf Side with John Fritz

October Surf Prospects

October is the month that most hardworking surfmen look forward to. The fishing potential of this month can supply one with vivid memories throughout the long winter months ahead. The much talked about fall run normally begins in mid-September and ends sometime after mid-November, with October providing thirty days of opportunity right in the middle.

We usually start our tour of the Island in the west, but the most activity as the month begins is to be found out east. During that period last year massive schools of jumbo blues hit the surf in the Hither Hills area, while North Bar witnessed three days of hectic fishing under a stiff northeast blow. Unfortunately, that was about it for Montauk last year. In order to give some perspective to the possibilities of this famed location, I will resort to previous years' happenings which are more typical of October at the Point.

The daylight hours are the least productive time to fish, but days with cloudy skies combined with a lusty onshore wind can produce blitz conditions at any time during the fall. For the most part, once the sun rises, the blues take over from the bass. High incoming from Turtle Cove to Scotts, and outgoing water along the north side—particularly at North Bar—are the most consistent areas. When one location fails to produce, check further along the beach for, as has happened so often in the past, the next bend in the shoreline can be the scene of wild action.

Because the "Light" is such a productive area, especially at this time, space is at a premium, with many anglers arriving hours before the preferred tide just to assure themselves of a place to fish. Contrary to the general rule, fish can be taken here at low water; so, if you are sitting on a rock waiting, make a few casts to keep it honest.

The best daylight lures are, as usual, popping plugs and tin, with red and yellow plugs often being the right combination. The rips should be worked after dark with darters and bottle plugs. Your color selection at night should include yellow, white, and blue. If you have a gale hitting you in the face, try those painted tins before giving up.

The south side under the bluffs is an area that should not be overlooked, especially if conditions on the north side are unbearable due to crowding or weather. Top-water swimming plugs are the standard equipment after sundown, with the seven inch Red Fins, Rebels, and Atoms heading the list. Pencil poppers or the regular popping plugs are the preferred daytime lures, although tin will take fish if care is taken to prevent the lure from sinking into the rocks.

Further west, the sand beaches can be traversed for miles searching for the game fish schools that travel close inshore on their westward migration. Bait fishing—particularly towards the eastern end near Ditch Plains—with eels or bunker has produced bass when no surface activity can be detected.

Shinnecock and Moriches often produce on the ebb tide as the predators pause in their journey to feed on any bait that is flushed out of the bays.

Continuing west, Democrat Point, the Cedar Bar, the tower at Robert Moses and West End should be watched, because these areas can become hotspots for several days when the passing schools of predators find the bait. The Cedar Beach Bar and the bar extending into Jones Inlet from West End are more productive on the dropping tide. Daylight success is a definite possibility; even yellow darters have taken fish during the day. Your normal selection of plugs will score with more consistency, but if you strike out—experiment! I have found that bright red lures will out-fish other colors when the water is roiled and dirty.

This general area is a popular location to try the most consistent catcher of lunker bass. Live eels fished during the day or night has rewarded the novice and sharpshooter alike with trophy bass and tackle-busting bluefish. Bunker chunks, mackerel, and clam can be used as a substitute.

The three jetties at Point Lookout offer a suitable place to intercept any fish leaving through Jones Inlet. The jetties from here to Breezy produce in the fall using swimming plugs. Methodically fish each jetty before moving on to the next.

Long Island Sound can be the scene of hot fishing, as the schools of game fish work their way up and down the Sound. The run is not as large and does not last as long as the south shore run, where passing schools of fish from New England bolster the local stocks.

The inlets and points of the north fork produce fish on swimming plugs at night, where the heavy equipment used on the south shore can be scaled down to suit the calmer waters of the Sound. If you like to cover more ground, use your car to check out any beachfront parking lots or road access areas in a given stretch of shoreline. Look for passing schools of feeding fish with their attendant canopy of birds. Dawn and dusk are the better times for this practice, unless cloudy skies and stiff onshore winds stir up some midday activity.

Bait fishing at Mattituck, Wading River, and the Shoreham power plant has worked in the past on both bass and blues. This is usually an after-dark practice.

Although most town beaches are less restrictive to outsiders after the bathing season ends, the access becomes more difficult the closer you get to the city. Many areas are available: Rocky Point, Port Jefferson, Makamah, Crabmeadow, and the Bayville beaches are worthwhile places to check.

The Sunken Meadow State Park covers a good portion of beach and on several occasions, I have found bait fish herded against the jetty by hordes of blues. The mouth of the Nissequogue River often produces school bass at night on small Rebels and Red Fin swimming plugs, with the blues most likely to pick up the action at dawn. Often it is necessary to wade out to the tip of the western bar, for on most occasions, the fish lie in the hole formed by the racing currents. Do not attempt this on your first night trip to the area unless you are accompanied by someone familiar with this bar. The bar has a bend which must be navigated during a strong rush of outgoing water which, by the way, is the best time to fish the river.

Further west lies Crabmeadow Inlet: it is not as dangerous as Nissequogue, but produces fish on the falling tide.

October is the time to leave the bay areas and fish the outside shoreline. The fish are now on the move along the open beaches. Any outside areas which has produced during the year will deliver now. Now is the time to hit the rips and inlet mouths at night, or for covering as much beachfront as possible during the day looking for those migrating schools of game fish. This is the action time of the year, and with any break from the weather, the search for "Ol Roccus" will continue into December. Don't hang up your rods with the close of this month. This is the month we've been waiting for.

SMOKING YOUR OWN FISH

(Continued from page 10.)

160 to 180 degrees for an hour—or slightly more depending on size of fish.

Some fishermen hook a thermometer to a piece of wire and hang it inside to arrive at the correct temperature. I've never found need to do this and never had a batch come out other than good. Just remember to increase the temperature for the prescribed time before removing.

If you like fish fillets, you'll like them better when smoked. This is where you use the circular piece of hardware cloth. Spray the mesh with Pam, or some such vegetable coating so that the fillets won't stick. Place them on it, skin side down. Smoke for one-and-a-half to two hours. That's it.

All this may seem like a lot of work, but it really isn't. You'll soon develop a system, anticipating each step as it comes along and the job will become a pleasure. And when you once taste the fish smoked by your skill and expertise, you won't be able to wait to do your next batch.

Guaranteed!

Sea Bass on the Reef

by Gerald Hahn

Last fall, I decided to try a party boat or sea bass with my son, David. Usually, I fish from the surf or rent a small boat for bay fishing. But every so often, the erratic nature of shore-bound fishing and to a certain extent, bay fishing gets me down and this is the time to go out on a party boat for a relatively sure thing.

We picked the Capt. Clark boat at Shinnecock because my son had been staying near the canal with a friend. They had gone out the week before on this boat and kept in touch with the mates daily. Reports had been very good. Actually, Capt. Clark has two boats in the canal; one for Peconic Bay fishing and the other for ocean fishing. His son runs one of the boats depending on the number of fares and availability of different species. For example: these boats had been working the bay and taking advantage of a brief run of weakfish and kings, while relying on the mainstay—porgies. As the weaks began to move out, the Captain switched to sea bass in the ocean. This is the kind of flexibility that many party boats have and it means a better success ratio for the angler.

The boat headed south through the canal into Shinnecock Bay. It was a warm, sunny day, but we could feel the chill of early autumn in the shade. As we passed through the inlet, I could see the west jetty where I fished many times and thought about all those rigs snagged on the bottom. Seeing this jetty from a new perspective made it seem so small and insignificant—a bit of rock extending a few hundred feet into the ocean. I was amazed at how many fish I had caught there over the years. Within an hour, we reached our destination, the artificial reef which is about two-and-a-half miles out. An assortment of tires, old barges, concrete, steel, etc., had been dropped to the bottom eighty feet below to break some of the wave action and create a home for a variety of fish. Ever since then, bottom fishing has improved greatly here. The reef is easy to locate even for the private boat owner, but finding the fish requires sophisticated equipment.

The boat circled a number of times until the Captain located a desirable spot and dropped the anchor. Chum was sprayed all over the area and everyone let out line. Within a minute, a hoot reverberated from the stern as a fisherman pulled up the first sea bass of the day. A few hours later, everybody had plenty of fish.

Many people prefer to rent tackle for this kind of fishing. A short, stout boat-rod and conventional reel, filled with at least thirty pound test is essential. To be sure, it would be more exciting to go light, but you would get some nasty comments from your neighbors as your line tangles with theirs. Standard rental equipment assures each fisherman of control when he hooks a fish and reel it in eighty feet. The rig is a simple hi-lo set-up, tied directly to the main line. A large porgy hook on a twelve inch snell is connected to the main line at the top by means of a dropper loop. Eighteen inches below, a small blackfish hook—also on a twelve inch snell—is connected in the same manner. A five ounce bank sinker is set-up eight inches below the bottom hook, using an end loop. On a windy day, it may be necessary to go heavier and consider four ounces a minimum.

All connections are tied directly to the main line and no hardware is necessary. The reason for using two different kinds of hooks is that even the pros cannot guarantee that a single species will be available consistently. The previous day, twenty-five people had caught a tremendous number of sea bass; today it could be blackfish or porgies. As it turned out, ninety percent of the fish caught were sea bass. Consequently, there is no "correct" hook to use in such a situation. Porgies nip at the bait, and tautog are sometimes dainty eaters; however, sea bass have large mouths and engulf the whole bait when they hit. Bergalls are a constant problem, and they steal the bait easily.

You have to be flexible about bait. The mates supplied us with skimmer clams and squid. In addition, they sold worms and fiddler crabs. David and I tried very combination, but on this day, clams were best. If more tautog had been in, perhaps fiddlers would have been best, or worms for porgies. It pays to experiment, but squid is usually a good choice for sea bass.

Most people try to get a position at the stern of the boat. This is usually the most productive area. Although the pool fish was caught here on this day, as far as I could see, everyone was catching fish at a fast pace all over the boat. In fact, one of the mates dropped a line from the middle of the boat for awhile and, within a short period, he had over seventy pounds of fish. I watched him bring up fish after fish, at double the rate of his neighbors and realized that he had several things going for him. First, he used three hooks, adding an extra hook on the bottom by tying it in tandem. Next, he didn't overload his hooks with bait. Too many fishermen bury their hooks in a mound of clams and wonder why it is stripped constantly. Finally, he used a longer bait casting rod and he was adroit at casting, flipping out the rig with an underhand motion so that when the bait reached bottom, it would not be underneath the boat, but a little in front—i.e., at about the same place as the chum would settle.

For the fisherman who is used to going light, it takes a little practice to get the feel for this kind of fishing. The reel is set in free-spool and the rig begins an eighty foot descent to the bottom. Use slight thumb pressure to keep the line running smoothly, otherwise you may have a bird's nest. You can tell when you reach bottom either by feel, or by watching the line go slack on the rod. Lock the reel and try to keep the bait on or near the bottom. Remember that the boat is pitching; a good method is to lower the rod as the boat rises on your side and raise it as the boat veers down.

Periodic jigging also helps to keep the bait working in the feeding zone of the fish and enables you to detect a hit more readily. Do not leave slack in the line at any point. When you feel a nibble, a short lift of the rod sets the hook; then start reeling in. If you place your left hand in front of the reel, you will have more control over the fish—especially if it's a large one. Don't be surprised if you hook into a sea bass, a porgy, or tautog, or an occasional double-header.

When you boat the fish, you may notice that some fish have burst bellies. There is nothing wrong with them. Remember that fish also get the bends when they are brought to the surface at great speed, and through changes of water pressure.

Many people prefer to have the mates clean the fish. This enables the mates to earn some extra money, and it is convenient for the fishermen. Essentially, they gut the fish by cutting it well behind the head, and to the anus. One cut and the fish is gutted; but the fisherman will still have to scale the fish and remove the fins or fillet his catch.

One thing I like about this boat. The Captain is conservation minded. If everyone catches many fish in a brief period, then he calls it a day. Most people are more than satisfied. Like I said, I enjoy a relatively sure thing—but I also like to know that I will be able to catch more this coming spring. It's not a bottomless pit.

The Diamond Jig & Striped Bass

by Ron Onorato

Whoever invented the diamond jig must have been born and raised at Montauk Point. If there is one region that is more dependent on one lure, it would be interesting to see. It seems that Montauk Point has evolved into the center of diamond jig fishing. When you consider the entire Northeastern seaboard, no place is more suited for the diamond jig than the Point. About the only other place where the jig is used to any degree as a striper lure, is at certain New York Harbor grounds—such as the Tin Can grounds, Ambrose Channel, and off Breezy Point. And at these regions, the lure is used by only a handful of experts. It should be noted, however, that it was here, rather than Montauk, that the jig really was developed. It was in the New York Harbor where many fishermen learned the use of the jig and then brought the technique out East, after the bass fishing dropped off on the local grounds.

Montauk, by its very nature, provides the best conditions on the East Coast to successfully use the diamond jig. Tide rips upon tide rips comprise almost all of the inshore water, and it is in these rips that the bass feed heavily. While there are bass in these rips virtually all season long, it is during the spring and fall migrations when the rips really become loaded with fish. It is in these tide rips that the diamond jig is most effectively employed.

The jig itself is nothing more than a three or four inch piece of chrome-plated lead or cast iron, with an eye molded onto either end of it. To one of these eyes, a hook is attached and to the other, the line is connected. The jig is really a simple device in itself—the difficulty lies in its proper application.

The diamond jig is meant to imitate a sand eel, and by the results produced on it—it must be quite an imitation. When the bass are feeding heavily on sand eels, the jig is the most effective method (short of using live sand eels) to catch them. Properly dispensed, the jig will usually outfish the troller using umbrella rigs. As far as enjoyment is concerned, who can dispute the use of twenty pound mono outfits against that of forty and fifty pound wire outfits?

However, learning to use the jig takes a little doing, and that is why there are few really good diamond jig fishermen. During the height of the spring and fall migrations, everyone catches fish on the diamond jig. After the big slugs of fish move through, however, it is a different

Author shows what kinds of catches are possible when a diamond jig is used properly—these bass were taken in one tide.

story. Now the expert jigger still takes fish, while the majority do not.

Without pretending to be an expert, I will hereby try to give some of the basics as far as techniques and tackle goes.

Before we get into the actual fishing techniques, let's take a brief look at the tackle requirements of this exacting art. The rod: this can be just about anything you feel like using. Length of the stick is about the most important thing to look for. A long, fast-action rod is preferred over a shorter, beefier one. The longer, willowy rod seems to impart a little better lure action, and allows for better hooking ability.

The reel is perhaps the most important part of the whole deal—use the wrong one and the results will show in the catches. One of the biggest mistakes that the novice angler makes is the assumption that the jig must fly through the water before a bass will take it. This is not the case at all. Based on this assumption, he will usually go out and buy the reel with the fastest retrieve and overlook other factors. The speed of the retrieve is not the most important factor to consider when purchasing a reel adapted for the diamond jig: having a smoothly operating reel is of the utmost importance. At one time, the Penn Squidder was one of the best reels to use for this type of fishing. However, in recent years, the quality of the reel has deteriorated, and it no longer is the best reel to use. The Penn Jigmaster with its extra-fast five-to-one gear ratio looks like a nice reel, but will definitely not stand up to the heavy usage with which the reel must be subjected to. About the best reel going, would be the Penn 3/0 Special with the moderately fast gear ratio. It is a good quality reel that can stand up to the long and hard usage, with just a little oiling every now and then.

Let's look at the jig itself, and then we will move along into the different techniques you can use with them. For the longest period of time, the Bridgeport diamond jig was the most commonly

used jig. The big treble hook, in most cases, was removed, and a single hook was used in its place. As with many other things, popularity led to increased production and as a result, quality really went down. You would catch a single fish and the plating would come off half the jig. Fortunately, the Ava Company sprung up and developed a longer, thinner jig than the octagonal diamond jig with a barrel swivel molded right into the body of the jig that incorporated a single hook. The plating job on these jigs is far superior.

The size of the jig can be anywhere from three to eight ounces; but the four and six ounce sizes are by far and away the most effective sizes. Most people feel they should go to a heavier jig when they have trouble feeling bottom, but actually the best thing to do is go to a lighter pound test on the mono line they are using. The lighter the diameter of the line, the less weight you'll need for feeling the bottom. On almost all occasions, the four ounce jig is employed. When the tide is really roaring due to the moon periods, then the six ounce jig will help you out. I've never had to go to a jig heavier than six ounces when jigging for bass. As a rule, use the lightest possible mono line you feel reasonably comfortable with; twenty pound mono is about right for most cases, and better yet, is fifteen pound mono. If the fish are big and mean, you can put a shot of thirty pound mono leader ahead of the jig and incorporate it into the main line by means of the blood knot, avoiding the barrel swivel at all times.

Before we move into the fishing techniques, let's take a brief look at the concept behind the jig and this will help you along the way. The jig imitates a sand eel, and must be made to look like one to the bass—not the shiny piece of metal that it really is. Bass will be feeding on sand eels, or for that matter, any bait close to the bottom. Even during heavy blitzes with bass pushing water, far more fish will be feeding closer to the bottom than on the surface. The bass position themselves down-tide of the edge of the rip usually, and face into the current, waiting for the tide to carry some bait fish in their direction. Therefore, you want to get the jig to act in a similar manner—which is easier said than done.

There are two different techniques that you can employ with the jig, with one working better at certain times than the other. The first technique is the easier, and it is commonly called squidding. Squidding, quite simply, merely calls for lowering the jig to the bottom and simply retrieving it to the surface in a number of different speeds. Sometimes a fast retrieve is called for, while at other times, a moderately slow retrieve is just the ticket. This technique works especially well in the fall when the bait fish and the bass are spread out over a wide area. By staying on long drifts, you can cover a wide area and will take fish all along.

When the bass are concentrated and not very numerous, the squidding technique becomes very ineffective. A technique that has come to be known as "heaving and hauling," now becomes the most effective technique to be employed. Unfortunately for many, or fortunately for the handful who know how to do it, "heaving and hauling" is extremely difficult to master, and it takes quite awhile before it can be effectively used. Basically, this method calls for stemming the tide with the boat in an area that holds some fish, and lowering the jig to the bottom while the boat is still in gear. Unlike squidding, where the boat will drift back with the tide, the boat is now staying pretty much in one area—though the tide will slide the boat around a bit even when it is in forward gear.

The idea here is to lower the jig to the bottom, and the precise moment it hits, begin a slow retrieve for a few seconds, and then quickly drop the lure back until it hits bottom the second time; then this time, you retrieve it all the way to the surface. This calls for very sensitive coordination to be able to feel the jig hit bottom. What you're always trying to achieve is a sharp, clean break by the jig from the bottom the instant it hits. What you don't want is the jig dragging along the bottom for a few seconds before whipping it back up. Since the boat is in gear, it is almost as if you're anchored. Unlike squidding, where the jig and the boat are both drifting at the same speed, the "heave and haul" method allows the jig to be carried back by an extremely strong tide. As the jig hits bottom, it is carried back by the tide. The moment you engage the reel, the tide then lifts the jig off the bottom a few feet. If this is done properly, it looks like a wounded sand eel fluttering back into the current. If the jig is allowed to drift on the bottom, it looks like little more than the piece of metal it is. The absolutely vital part of this operation is getting the jig started back up the actual moment it taps the bottom.

Coordinating your reflexes will take some time, because we are creatures of habit, and it is a little difficult to break bad habits sometimes. Most of your time spent initially will probably be in taking out the bird's nest that will inevitably occur when you don't maintain enough pressure on the spool as you're letting the line out. This is one aspect of bass fishing where you really have to watch someone doing it properly before you can get around to doing it correctly yourself.

Diamond jigging will take bass of all sizes—from little twenty inch schoolies, if there are any left, all the way up to fifty pound fish, although the average sized fish will be in the ten to fifteen pound range. Again, it is not only the efficiency of this method that makes it so good, but also the sporting quality of the fishing itself makes it that much more enjoyable. You will get quite a sense of accomplishment when you master this technique, as it will then mark you as sort of an elite specialist, and others will look upon you with jealousy—instead of the other way round.

Author with medium size bass taken on an Ava diamond jig.

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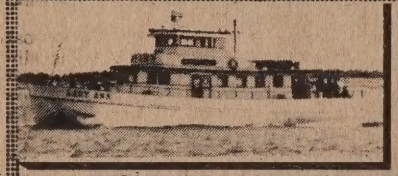

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George, Nina, Richie, and Julio show off 70 blues, weaks, bonita, and an albacore, caught on Ava diamond jigs, fishing on Capt. John DeMaio's "Vivienne."

SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

MONTAUK

BLUEFISH

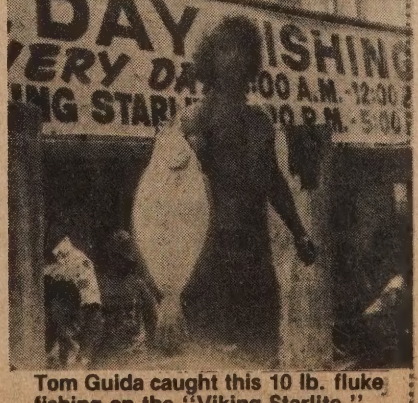
Capt. Paul Sundberg of the charterboat **Montauk** called to say that bluefishing is still excellent when the weather is calm enough to fish for them. On Saturday morning the boat had a charter from the N.Y. Telephone Co. led by Guy Decatrel. Fishing around the Submarine Buoy they took over 100 bluefish and 40 green bonito, which are the kind that are good to eat. All the fish were jigged on Ava diamond jigs and the charter decided to head back to the dock by noon when the wind started to come up.

Capt. John DeMaio of the charterboat **Vivienne** confirmed that bluefishing is still great whenever the weather has been half way decent. Both the Triangle and Submarine Buoy are still producing, but there was also a large body of blues on the inshore grounds right off the Light on Friday. All the blues you want were taken on diamond jigs or trolling.

Capt. Warren Hader of the charterboat **Devilfish** said that on Wednesday he murdered the bluefish when he found a large school working along the south side. This was Wednesday afternoon, but a return trip there Thursday morning came up with nothing. Then the captain fished right in front of the light and bailed all the blues the charter wanted. About 40 big blues were taken on the morning trip and about the same number taken in the afternoon charter.

Capt. Frank Macaro of the charterboat **Free Spirit** called to say that the weather this past week made fishing somewhat difficult to say the least. However, the blues are still there and on his inshore charter Tuesday, he took 21 bluefish and a group on Thursday bagged 19 big blues.

Capt. Paul Forsberg of the **Viking Starship** raved about the fantastic night bluefishing at Cartwright. The monster bluefish ranging from 12 up to 20 pounds, averaging in the mid teens, are virtually turning the paper black on the fish recorder, and anglers are taking all their arms can stand. Paul said that the boat leaves daily at 7 P.M. and only takes 45 minutes from the dock to run to the bluefish



Tom Guida caught this 10 lb. fluke fishing on the "Viking Starlite."

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OCTOBER 5th MEETING OF L.I. SPORTFISHING COUNCIL

The next meeting of *The Long Island Sportfishing Council* will be held on Wednesday, October 5th at 8 PM in the Holiday Inn in Plainview. Order of business will be: nominations for permanent officers and board of directors for the elections at the November meeting; preliminary committee reports from the three committees set up at the September meeting to advise the N.Y. Dept. of Environmental Conservation on gillnetting in Great South Bay, a saltwater fishing license, and the menhaden fishery. All members are urged to attend.

NATIONAL SCENE
Continued from page 8.

stock. It's primarily a battle over who's to be served by our fisheries—American citizens as Congress intended, or foreign fleets, as some bureaucrats desire. We fought the 200 Mile Limit battle to make sure that our fisheries would no longer be bartered off—now we've got to protect our rights before we lose them by default! The deadline date for comments is October 6. Write **now** to Bill Gordon, Regional Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Federal Building, 14 Elm Street, Gloucester, Mass. 01930. Also check for the date of a public meeting in your area in the next week.

grounds.

On Friday Capt. Art Munday of the charterboat **Darius II** cleaned up on big bluefish trolling umbrella rigs during the outgoing tide. The fish were virtually everywhere inshore and working on the surface all the way from the lighthouse to the Great Eastern Buoy.

Henry Colombi of the **Star Island Yacht Club** said that the surf casters had a couple of field days when the bluefish moved inshore as a result of the high winds last week. On Tuesday morning one of the locals who couldn't get out in his boat took 35 big bluefish with his friend casting from the North Bar. On Sat. morning the blues came into the beach for the surf casters virtually everywhere, from the breakwater around to the south side all the way to Ammagansett.

FLUKE

Due to the high winds and the fact that nobody has been able to fish for them recently, there was very little to report on the fluke. Henry Colombi of the **Star Island Yacht Club** said that he hadn't heard of anyone bringing any fish in during the last week, but that's not to say that the fluke have departed. Skip at the **Cove Marina** said that he knew of a few private boats that fished the south side during the week that made some decent catches of fluke up to 8 pounds, but had no real doormats to report. Best action has been in 70 feet of water on the south side when the boats can get out.

PORGIES & SEABASS

Capt. Bud Dorman of the **Viking Skipper II** said that fishing under the Light and off Block Island this week was terrific despite the high winds. Even in Saturdays southeast bluster and rainy day the fishing was a real leap job. Bud said that this time of year it's a real mixed bag or pot pouri of porgies, sea bass, fluke, big flounder, blackfish, cod, bluefish, bonito and triggerfish. When you send your line down, you never know what's going to come up on the other end.

Capt. Ron Grandinetti of the **Julie III** and five members of the Skunked Again Fishing Club led by Manny Kossio caught a total of 435 pounds of porgies and sea bass fishing off the rocky bottom at Culloden Pt. in 25 feet of water. It was a very nasty day but fishing nevertheless was very good. They also put 6 large flounder and 2 fluke in the box.

Scott Simons of The Fisherman reported that although the sea bass may have been late in arriving this year fishing for them now is absolutely great. Fishing on Friday between the big blows, Scott and his father Bill and friend Jim Cleary of Newsday took 117 pounds of jumbo humpback sea bass up to 4 pounds in only a few hours. The hot area was

Some of the fish taken during Sept. 18th special wreck trip of the "Viking Starship." Pool winners were: John Zurlo - 50 lb. cod; Richard Knauer - 56 lb. cod; Ditmar Balko - 36 lb. cod; John Frohlich - 46 lb. cod.

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SA-GEE CAPT. FRED RIEGE (516) 261-3662	Sea Doll CAPT. GENE KELLY (516) 668-2019	Wee Mac Capt. Harry McAllister (212) 225-1158

82 degrees, two miles from the Submarine Buoy where the depth comes back up to about 50 feet. Most of the fish were two pounds or more with only three throwbacks all day.

CODFISH

Capt. Paul Forsberg of the **Viking Fishing Fleet** reported that the action at Coxe's Ledge has been fair to good. The wrecks seem to be producing best at this point, which is an excellent sign for a good fall run of fish. Paul said that he heard through the grapevine that up north the commercial fishermen were loading their nets with thousands of "young of the year" cod, something that hasn't been seen in awhile and also sounds good for the future. Paul also noted that cod up to 40 pounds have been taken by anglers on the night bluefishing trips to Cartwright, which is evidenced that the cod population is now sufficient to provide a good inshore migration. The new **Viking Starship** only takes 1 hour and 35 minutes to run to Coxe's Ledge, and is also scheduled to make several one day Nantucket wreck trips that this speed makes possible. Two trips have been scheduled for Oct. 3rd and the 18th. The boat leaves the Viking dock at 1 A.M. and returns the same day around 9 P.M. The fare is $55 and there is a 70 passenger limit, so call as soon as possible to make your reservation.

STRIPED BASS

Capt. Gene Kelly of the charterboat **Sea Doll** reported that bass fishing has been excellent whenever the boats can get out between the lulls in the wind. On Friday night the captain said he trolled off Jone's with swimming plugs and feathers. In a little over a half hour they bagged 7 bass to 42 pounds before they had to return to the jetties due to the heavy seas that were still building.

Capt. John DeMaio of the charterboat **Vivienne** confirmed that bass fishing was building before the heavy winds. On Monday the charterboats did a real number on the fish around Great Eastern trolling umbrella rigs and jigging bucktails. On Friday morning John found some fish on the south side and took 12 bass casting for the charter aboard. Saturday morning five nice fish were taken casting in the same place. John also said that those that have been able to get out at night have been doing a good job on big fish.

Henry Colombi of the **Star Island Yacht Club** reported that there were some excellent bass fishing by those trolling large plugs at night off Jones. Capt. Walter Kaprielian of the "Blue Beard" loaded up there on Friday night before the winds became unbearable.

OFFSHORE

Capt. Warren Hader of the charterboat **Devilfish** said that the only day he could sail offshore was Friday. Fishing southeast of the Point in 210' of water they had sharks in the chum slicks almost all day. 3 monster blue sharks were taken—2 were over 300 pounds and the third "baby" was only 270. The party was headed by Larry Thoma, an L.I.F. subscriber.

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Capt. Paul Sundberg of the charterboat **Montauk** reported that there is still plenty of good fishing offshore when weather permits the boats to sail. The water temperature 25 miles due south of the Point in 235 feet of water was still 68 degrees, which means good sharking. On Friday, Steve Lynch of Bayshore was aboard with his 12 year old son Steve Jr. They bagged a brown shark of 80 pounds, a big blue of about 180 pounds and young Steve took a mako shark of 70 pounds.

Capt. Frank Macaro of the charterboat **Free Spirit** said that Saturday's offshore charter decided to return inshore for their fishing due to the high winds. But this was after they did have a strong run off after chumming for only 15 minutes. The water temperature offshore

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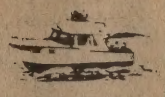

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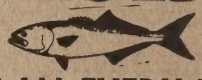

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If you can SEE thru it,
IT'S TOO SMALL!

is about 65 and Frank says that the sharks will stay as long as the temperature remains above 55. The Free Spirit has this Saturday open for offshore and Sunday afternoon open for inshore fishing. Call Frank at 929-4881.

Capt. Pete Van Alst of the **Modar III** called to say that he has stopped chartering this year but will be chartering from Florida this winter. So if you are Florida bound and want to fish with a "local" call Pete at 516 261-5555.

NOYAC

Barbara at **Noyac Marina** called to say that as of now the station will be closed on Wednesdays for the rest of the season. She said that although few boats were able to make it out in the horrible weather of the past week, those that did still found great fishing right off the Monastery and Long Beach. Anglers fishing these areas are taking great mixed bags of fluke, weaks, porgies, snappers, and kingfish.

SHINNECOCK

Capt. Clark Bellows Sr. said that the **Capt. Clark Boats** have been doing a good job with the blackfish. Fishing for the blacks has been steadily picking up on the local wrecks in Peconic Bay with most of the fish 3½ pounds and up. Despite the weather anglers averaged 12 to 18 nice fish a man on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. On Friday several blacks in the 8 lb. class were taken and the Rev. Elliot Sloan took the pool with an 8½ pounder. Green crabs and fiddlers are the best baits and both are available on the Capt. Clark Boats. Clark noted that the larger blackfish seem to prefer the green crabs. Up until Sat. those fishing for porgies were still loading up on them and fishing should continue for a few weeks anyway. The Captain said that he will make an offshore trip to the artificial reef and his favorite wrecks this weekend if the weather permits.

HAMPTON BAYS

Corr's Fishing Station reported that due to the extremely poor weather conditions almost no fishing activity occured in Shinnecock Bay last week. Flounder of good size are now being taken in the Shinnecock Bay by the local trap fishermen, so it looks like the fall flounder run has begun and with weather permitting the flounder fishermen should find Shinnecock Bay productive this coming week. Both fluke and snappers are just about gone from the area with only a few stragglers left behind.

John at **Bradley's Fishing Station** also reported that the flounder are starting to show in the local fish traps. There are still a few fluke being taken in the bay but the fishing is very spotty. There are still a few big snappers around, but not many.

MORICHES BAY

Cerullo Bros. Fishing Station reported that they haven't had any boats out since last Sunday, but know from the private boats that

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Blues, Tuna, Shark, Bottom
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15 Man Minimum
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Tom Monaghan with 7 lb. prize winning fluke caught on charter-boat "Double Header" out of Three Mile Harbor.

blackfish are being taken off the rocks in the inlet and lafayettes are being taken in the hole at buoy 39 and 40. No crabs or flounder reported. Last weekend the boats were still taking 8 to 12 fluke during slack water but no one knows what the recent bad weather has done to this fishing.

Ben at **Tadsen's Fishing Station** reported that nice fat flounder are being taken in the area of buoys 42 and 44 and off Great Gun Beach so this fishing is off to a good start for the fall. A mixed bag of lafayettes, porgies, and blue claw crabs are also being taken in the hole at buoys 42 and 44. Ben said that no one can be certain, but the fluke have probably departed the area.

East Moriches Bait and Tackle reports that a 165 lb blue shark was taken on Thursday due south of the inlet in 150' of water. Umbrellas are taking 8-10 lb bluefish inside the outer bar. This had been consistent until last week's rains came. Flounders in the inside holes, roughly a dozen per boat going for them, action at buoy 44 and the hole between 42 and 43. Snappers are big now and still around on small baitfish and small lures. Right after the thunder storms of last week, tuna abounded on top out to the 150' line at least.

WEST SAYVILLE

Sout Bay Fishing Station reports best action has been in the buoy 30 area for weakfish on squid, salty dogs and snapper, some fluke on squid with mixed catches of blowfish, porgies, flounders and some seabss on worms and clam. Flounders are running up to 1½ lbs.

OAK BEACH

The Store reports snappers and blacks off the piers just south of **The Store** but this slowed down due to the bad weather that rolled in. Some schoolie bass taken on poppers at Cedar Beach.

BAY SHORE

Smokeys Bait and Tackle reports blacks at the inside Kismet Reef, particularly the western end, fish to 8 lbs on fiddlers at the top of the flood and the enitre ebb. Blacks

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LARGEST TACKLE SELECTION
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also under the Moses Bridge on slack, 2-3 lbs. A few seabass mixed in, on clam. A few fluke left near the Bell buoy and inlet on sand eels and squid. Good sized porgies in West Channel on squid, clam and a chum pot. Big weakfish on live snapper in front of the lighthouse, best on the flood. Snappers still okay, but slowing a bit. Blues 60-65' of water, a slaughter on chum and bait, umbrellas or diamond jigs. Bonito and albacore in front of the Pound Nets at the mouth of the inlet on diamond jigs. Some good bass fishing on the outside off Pt. of Woods on live eels from the surf at night. A lot of twenty pounders.

CAPTREE

Capt. Neal of the **Lady Ann** called to say that the night blues remained a slaughter and that day blues are now consistently good/-excellent. On Friday night 20 men had close to 300 giant blues. Saturday's day trip for 16 men saw 75 giant blues from 10-17 lbs bouncing on the deck. The biggest blues are apparently here on the wrecks. Daytime it's mostly bait and chum but jigs and bananas are working also. At night it is still bait and chum. The fishing is now very consistent. The boat's worst night in 4 weeks has been 160 big blues. An average catch is about 15 fish. Neal says it couldn't be better and temperatures permitting, there should be another month of this super fall action.

Capt. Gordon Roman of the **Captree Queen** said that not many boats have been sailing lately due to the horrendous weather but when the weather has been nice, the **Captree Queen** is still catching 6 to 8 fluke per man in the area west of the Bridge down to buoy 2 in the inlet and around the Wilson's Dock area and buoys 4 to 6. The fish are mixed sizes and enough are being taken to go around. The captain noted the water is still very warm and there is a lot of bait still in the inlet.

BABYLON

Augies Bait and Tackle reports snappers still around and that on Saturday morning, Bob Kaich used a live one to round up 6 weaks up to 11¾ lbs fishing the hole off the lighthouse. On Friday, 16 blacks up to 3 lbs 9 ozs were boated by Al Dionisio and Vic Zezeski using fiddlers at the Kismet Reef. Delores heard of 16 schoolie bass taken in the surf at Tobay on bait. Lafayetts being taken on worms in the state channel.

B ill at **Babylong Fishing Station** reports really super weakfishing at the lighthouse, many fish between 11 and 13 lbs live lining small porgies or snappers. Last Sunday, Craig Pollak, all of 9 yrs old fishing on John Suss's Little John, took a 32 lb 8 oz bluefin tuna on trolled red and white feathers 5 miles South of the NB. Weaks at the bridge from

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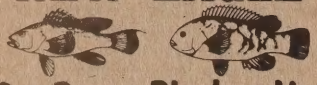
NEW EAGLE



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7 A.M. DAILY

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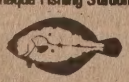

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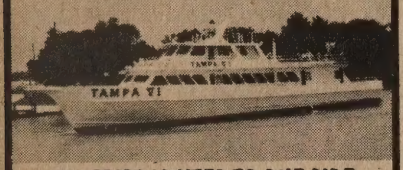

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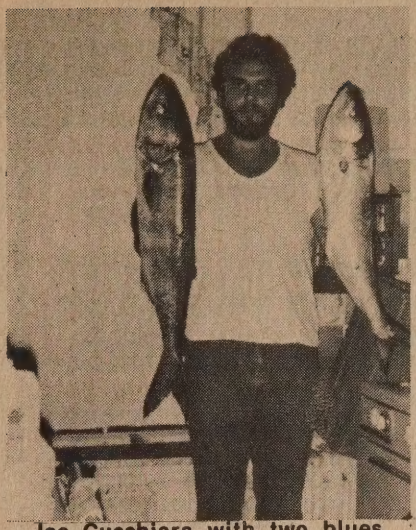

Joe Cucchiara with two blues caught on "The Ranger" using smelt and bunker. The fish weighed 13 lb. 8 oz. and 9 lbs.

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LINDENHURST

Charlies Bait and Tackle reports blackfishing is the big event right now with loads and loads of blacks falling to fiddlers and green crabs at the Kismet artificial reef. Flounder have started for sure at Squaw Island, the State Channel , Copiague hole on worms. Good catches of albacore and bonito in 80-130' of water, 165 degrees out of the inlet on red and white feathers and red and white cedar jigs. Clark Squid Spoons are also taking fish, John says. Doc Grell fishing a live bunker bagged a 13 lb 10 oz weakfish. This was on a trip with Joey G and the two finished the day with 18 weaks, working the F.I. Inlet area. Duck hunters take notice ... Buy your steel shot early. Supplies are running out and there may not be more available.

Dukes Bait and Tackle reports that as of Thursday, tuna bonito and albacore were taken SE of FI Inlet from 65' of water on out. Howie Rubin on his boat Cutlet bagged 2 tuna to 40 lbs on jet lures in 90' of water. Blackfishing has been very good as evidenced by BTC member Harry Kircher on Saturday taking over 2 dozen blacks to 6 lbs 7 ozs at the Kismet Reef on fiddlers and green crab. Weaks on live snapper and on small live blackfish fishing the hole between the old Lighthouse and the wreck buoy. Snappers abundant in the bay and of excellent size on small baits and artificials. A few small school bass in the surf on eels at night. Still some fluke around but they are crammed with sand eels.

COPIAGUE

Bait and Tackle Unlimited reports flounder showing in some deep holes in the State Channel on worms and clam along with some catches of blowfish. Fluke still around at the inlet with 17 being taken aboard one boat Saturday on squid and smelt. Weaks still very good at the lighthouse and in the inlet on live snapper and also on sand worms. Blackfishing is also very good at the Kismet Reef on fiddlers, fish up to 7 lbs. Snappers still around, taking almost anything. Tuna and albacore at 110-130' of water on red and white feathers and cedar jigs.

AMITYVILLE

George Combs Bait and Tackle tells us that those that fished last week went after blackfish and did a respectable job of it with fish up to 11 lbs being taken at the Kismet Reef on fiddlers and green crabs with slack water best (especially at the bridges). The bridges are producing also though the blacks are a little smaller. Flounders are starting to show at West Island, The State Channel, Amityville Cut on worm and clam with some seabass, porgies and lafayetts mixed in. Big weakfish on small live blackfish at the hole off the lighthouse and at the Jones Inlet CG Station and also at the Meadowbrook Bridge.

SEAFORD

Salice Fishing Station tells us that prior to the storm there was tremendous weakfishing in his area with one angler fishing three days in a row and bagging 26 weakfish on snapper and also on sand worm. This was John Kellsch of Seaford. Best areas are the 3rd bridge and Black Banks. Loads of sand porgies, snapper, a few flounder and fewer fluke. Worm and clam on a hi-lo rig will do for these species. Crabs are starting now in that area. Charlie says really beautiful weakfish-

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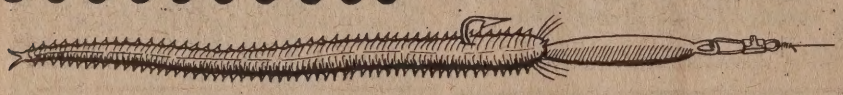

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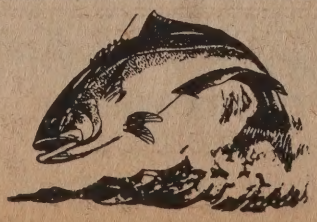


ing, fish averaging 4 and 5 pounds.

BELLMORE

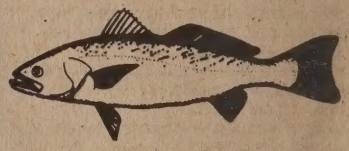
Merrick Marine Supplies reports porgies, blowfish and flounder available for the catching in most of the deep holes, in Swift Creek and at Jones Inlet on worm and clam baits. Weaks at the inlet on drifted worms or live snapper. Blacks at the bridges and on the T Wreck on fiddlers or green crab. Bonito and albies around the NB on trolled red and white feathers or jigs. Bluefish around the 40 foot mark, fish running 6 to 10 pounds for trollers, jiggers and chummers.

MERRICK

Jimmy at **Nick's Fishing Station** tells us that blues are being chummed at Cholera now during the day with Fri. being excellent. Biggest news this week was an upsurge in blackfish catches at the Meadowbrook Bridge and the Swift Creek bridge on fiddlers and on clam.

BALDWIN

Andy at **Arthur St. Fishing Station** tells us that 31 fluke were caught in the inlet by Joe Winowecki and Bill Kistinger, fish up to 4 pounds on killies and spearing on Thursday. Weaks and blues were taken up to 14 pounds by Jerry Kircher on umbrellas on Friday fishing in the area of the JI buoy.

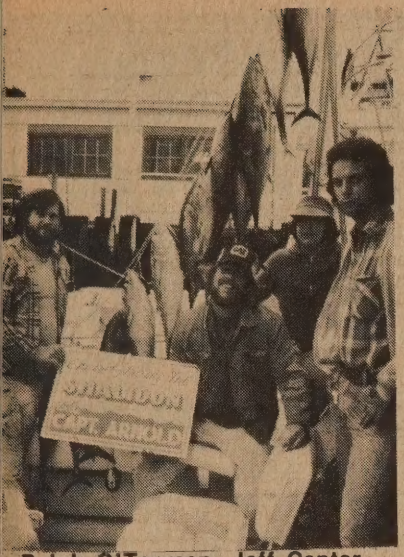


N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

FREEPORT

Capt. Walter Scott on the charterboat **Acme II** tells us that on last Wednesday, some blues, albacore and bonito were chummed and trolled in the morning hours for his charter. In the afternoon he clobbered two to three pound class bluefish south of the Jones Tower plus he took some more bonito and albacore roughly 12 miles southwest of the inlet. In the afternoon it was mainly diamond jigs. On Tuesday, Walter put his charter into all big blues, 10 to 14 pounds, fishing the same area about 12 miles southwest of Jones. It was a great day with 22 huge choppers banging on the decks but he had to leave early due to the storm moving in. On the way back they hit fluke in the inlet and rounded off the day with these flatties. They finally came in at 3:30 in the afternoon. On Wed. night of last week a charter of 2 families zapped a load of blues on bait and chum. Capt. Eddie Carlson on the **Norseman** also did a job on the blues. The blue demons are definitely not gone.

The **Capt. Al** reports that on Saturday bluefishing was excellent at Cholera for big blues with a sprinkling of albacore and bonito. Bait and chum took the fish with a few being jigged. All week long fish were taken on bait and chum with jigging also producing. Action was very good Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, with Monday and Friday being fair due to fishing conditions. Al classified Tuesday as a slaughter. Thursday's trip had 40 people on the boat with good catches for



Ralph O'Terysen, Jeff Cantor, Kevin Davidson, and Ray Sensale (left to right) with catch of albacore, and bonito taken trolling near the HA Buoy on charterboat "Shalidon."

nearly all of them. Al said to please mention that both day and night fish are sucumbing nicely to the more relaxed bluefishing of chumming and baiting, if you can in any way classify bluefishing as relaxed to any degree. With these strong catches being made, the bluefishing will continue on this boat through October and Al suggests that you come down now before the weather and water get too cold. Wild mixed bags right now.

Capt. Joe Long of the charterboat **Nite Owl** called to say that a 4 man charter which he took out on Sat. to the HA buoy area resulted in a super catch of 20 tuna in the 20 to 30 lb. class and 21 albacore and bonito in the 3 to 15 lb. range. This was all on red and white feathers and painted cedar jigs. The charter was for a Mr. Rainey and party. This seems to have been a banner year for tuna aboard the **Nite Owl.**

Capt. Wayne King of the charterboat **Capt. Joe** called to tell us that Saturday's charter arranged by Wm. Bensen of AT&T of Manhattan resulted in 62 slammer blues of the 8 to 12 lb. variety chummed at the Cholera with 2 to 3 fish on constantly. 24 fluke taken in the inlet rounded off the day.

Charterboat **Sea Hawk** called to tell us that on Friday he fished southwest of Cholera for 33 bonito in the 4 to 5 lb. class and albacore up to 12 pounds. This was for Lou Mazzeralla and party. They trolled red and white feathers at 800 rpms. Saturday's charter for Al Porter and Co. saw some blues come over the rail on bunker chum and chunks but then with the wind kicking up they had to call it a day.

The **Starstream II** reports mixed bags of porgies, sea bass and some blackfish being taken on the day trips with the stand out catch of the week being a 9 lb. blackfish taken over one of Capt. Richie Kessinger's secret wreck.

Charterboat **Bluefin II** called to say that his Friday and Saturday charters did very well on bluefish both days with chum and bait fishing 9 miles south of Jones Inlet with the change of tide being best. They left fish biting, that's how good it was. Friday's pool winner was Rich Brown with a 14 lb. blue. This charter was City Bank. Sy estimates 600 pounds of bluefish were caught each of these two days. Fish averaged 12 pounds. Sea bass to 2 pounds were also taken as an incidental catch on jigs.

Joyce at **Hudson Pt. Fishing Station** tells us that Mitch Eisenberg of Freeport fishing

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Laura Schecter with 7 lb. 5 oz. fluke caught aboard Capt. Sy Karlin's "Blue Fin II" in Reynolds Channel.

Jones Inlet on Sat. took 32 fluke, 3 sea bass and 15 blowfish all on killies on a fluke rig.

Frank's Marina and Fishing Station tells us that Clyde Hughes had 15 albacore trolling south of Jones Inlet in 40 feet of water on Saturday, fish going to 20 pounds all on red and white feathers. Plenty of flounder in Swift Creek at the hole off the last bay house, fish up to 2 pounds. Some fluke still being taken at buoy 17 in Jones Inlet. A 5 lb. fluke was taken here on squid and killies by one customer, even though the fluking is slowing down now.

Gregg at **Sea Isle Sports** reports lots of tuna being caught in the area of the HA on cedar jigs. Weakfish being taken at the Meadowbrook Bridge on live snappers and small live bunkers. Good blackfishing at the bridge on fiddlers. Sand porgies and lafayettes on worm and clam in any of the deeper holes. Rumors of a few schoolies taken on bait from the beaches. Flounder being taken from the deeper holes on worm. Blues being umbrellaed close in to the beaches.

The **Aloma** reports good sized flounder all through the bay, in particular Swift Creek and the Staten Channel with worms working best. Looks like a good fall flounder season.

POINT LOOKOUT

Ed's Fishing Station reports that flounder are still to be had in Swift Creek. These fish are running from ¾ to 1 pound. Porgies and lafayettes are taking worms and clams at buoys 17 in Reynolds Channel. Some spotty bass activity was had at the Meadowbrook Bridge. These are bigger fish averaging 20 pounds and hitting live bunker.

Charterboat **Marie III** called to tell us that on Thursday they loaded up a charter with 47 blues from 2 to 5 pounds and 8 weakfish up to 10 pounds fishing east of the jetty trolling umbrellas with green tubes. Roughly an equal number of fish were dropped.

ISLAND PARK

Beckmann's Tackle reports that bass are being taken on Danny plugs at Pt. Lookout on Fri. and Sat. Bob Longstreet took a 28½ pounder here. Weakfish and blues are in and out of the area. On Friday and Saturday weaks and bass were being taken at the Sore Thumb on lures such as the Lupo Danny plugs and Gibbs pencil poppers. The snappers were in the inlet up until Saturday.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Capt. Ronnie Lepper called to say big blues and weaks are being trolled on spoons off Atlantic Beach and Long Beach. The bluefish tournament held by the Atlantic Beach Rod and Gun Club was taken by Tony Seniscalchi and Cliff Follenius with a 10 pound plus blue also taken on a Lupo bunker spoon. Bluefish from 2 to 15 pounds are being trolled, chummed and jigged from Fire Island Inlet to Debs. On Saturday live bunkers were fished by Harry Nishaman of Woodridge, NY for a catch of big blues and weakfish while drifting east of the Atlantic Beach Bridge.

Sy at **Henning's Fishing Station** reports good catches of tuna roughly 15 miles southeast of the HA with albacore and bonito mixed in on red and white feathers. On Sat. one of his skiffs returned with 26 pounds of blackfish fillet, pulled from the Atlantic Beach Bridge pilings on fiddler crabs. On Sunday a boat drifting between the East Rockaway Inlet and the Atlantic Beach Hotel came back with a box of bluefish on (he says) blue tubes. Flounders on worm and porgies and lafayettes on clam are being taken on the west side of the Cedarhurst Yacht Club.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

The Atomic II tells us that Wednesday saw excellent catches of big porgies and sea bass at the Tin Can Grounds and that this is readily repeated whenever weather is good. The porgies ran to 2 pounds and the sea bass were in the 1 pound range. Catches later in the week suffered due to the lousy weather and sea conditions.

Capt. Victor of the **Tampa VI** reports last week's tilefish trip ended up with super results with about 250 big delicious tile being decked. High hook was 10 fish and the largest ran around 50 pounds. Some dolphin were jigged on the trip and a big mako shark was on for awhile but busted loose. They sailed with a capacity crowd. See ad for the next scheduled tilefish trips. Bontio and albacore were taken during the week with Tuesday both night and day producing nicely along with good solid bluefish action. Strong probability of even further improved fishing once this weather settles down.

Capt. Larry of the **Eagle** tells us that Saturday's day trip for sea bass, blacks and porgies saw very good results fishing near by wrecks and pieces. Fish were mixed sizes. His night whiting trips have also been very productive, particularly Sat. night with fish of mixed sizes being socked away.

The **Pilot II** reports lots of porgies and a good showing of blackfish weather permitting that is. Capt. Tom has just recently got married, even though we warned him. In any case, it's too late now, so loads of good luck, Capt. Tom and wife.

The **Elsie K III** reports that Saturday saw a good mixed catch of blues, weaks and fluke, even though the weather and seas were ugly. Tom says that it's now time to come out for fall fishing. He will be sailing now for blues, bonito, weaks and stripers.

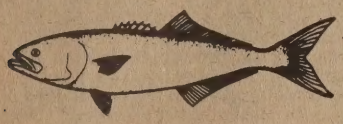
Capt. Huck on the **Helen H** tells us that Friday and Saturday nights were mixed catches of blues, albies, bonito and some weakfish. Saturday's day trip was a jigging trip. Huck said the fish are definitely there an and he is concentrating in the Tin Can area. Friday he fished 17 Fathoms where the pool went 15 pounds and a lot of 7 and 8 pound fish were taken though most were 2 to 4 pounders. Thursday nights trip was even better fishing 17 Fathoms with bait and chum. Fish are still around in good numbers to the east, Farms and at Cholera and Huck says catches should be excellent with some decent weather.

The **Flamingo II** reports there are still bonito and albacore offshore and the weather may very well cause a big upsurge in the fishing. Since they want clean, clear water, as

do the tuna, if more offshore clean water moves in, so will more fish. Local blues are now being jigged along with weaks and stripers in between and this should continue with the fall migration. The blues should be here all of October along with a scattering of weaks and bass. On Tuesday, two men had 47 blues in two hours time.

The **Chief**, the bays 10 a.m. boat, reports plenty of porgies of mixed sizes plus some fluke on Wednesday, along with some sea bass and blacks. Bottom fishing is very good right now says Capt. Wreggie.

Neil at **Stella Maris Bait and Tackle** tells us that Monday through Friday saw a lot of blues and some stripers mixed in at the Tin Can on diamond jigs. Weaks are being taken at the can on sand worms fished on the bottom. Monster blues are being umbrellaed at Norton's Pt. The can is still producing some fluke although they are tapering off.



NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

GREENPORT

Capt. Artie Lach of the **Wilhelric** reports the porgy fishing remains super excellent, fishing the Sound. A real slaughter, he says. Fish are running to 3 pounds on clam baits. On Thurs., quite a few fares had over 100 fish, almost all large and jumbos. Blackfishing is improving and within the next week or so, they will switch over to blackfish, mainly depending on what the people want. Keep an eye on the **Wilhelric** ad.

A.P. White Bait Shop reported good results last week for fishermen who went out in the lousy weather. Striper activity was better than usual in Plum Gut and around Old Field. Blues were hitting pretty good at Pigeon Rip. The Race and the rip off Plum Island were also good spots. Different places at different tides around Plum Island are the best bets for blackfish. Flounder catches are on the increase. Orient Pt. is the best location as of this report.

The partyboat **Brand X** reported good catches of blues during most trips last week. Pigeon Rip supplied most of the action. Smelts and diamond jigs produced nearly all the fish.

SOUTHOLD

Port of Egypt Fishing Station reports that decent catches were coming into the station up until the storm. Flounder were taken at the Orient Pt. station up to 1¼ pounds and fishermen were coming in with up to a bushel and a half of the flatties. Blackfish in the area are still small averaging 4 pounds. Bigger fish can be found at Old Silas Rock using green crabs for bait. Blackfish have also showed up in the Brickyards and three 7 pounders were taken at the Greenlawns. Decent catches of porgies also came in.

NEW SUFFOLK

Capt. Marty's Fishing Station reports there are plenty of fish around all that we need is a break in the weather so people can get out. Porgies up to 2 pounds are being taken on skimmer clams, squid and worms. Weakfish

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Mike Tortice and Joe Lando caught this bass and two blues to 13 lbs., off Long Beach, Smithtown. They used umbrella rigs. Photo courtesy of Mae's Way.

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up to 4 pounds were hitting sand worms and squid and kingfish, snappers and blowfish were mixed in with catches. This fishing is being done in South Race and Roses Grove areas. Last Monday Israel Thomas, his son Billy and two other people went out to the Roses Grove area and came back in with over 1000 porgies. On Thursday, Mr. Bond and his crew came in with a nice mess of fish.

SELDEN

Angler's Den reported that in spite of last week's bad weather some bluefish in the 10 lb. class were taken at various spots along the north shore. Jack Desmond and Joe Arebs brought back a dozen blackfish up to 7 pounds 6 ounces from Rocky Pt. Joe Nubile and his daughter caught 30 flounder up to 2 pounds fishing the sandy bottom at Cedar Beach. There were still a few scattered fluke taken last week. As of this report porgy fishing is still a pretty good bet.

MT. SINAI HARBOR

Ralph's Fishing Station reports that fishing was good right up until the storm. On Sat. blues were being taken at both Cedar Beach and the Middlegrounds. Porgy fishing is still good in the area and blackfishing continues to pick up.

KINGS PARK

Bob from **Mae's Way Fishing Station** reported a rather horrible week with heavy rains and strong winds virtually eliminating all fishing possibilities. On Saturday a few private boats went out and found extremely picky action. Sunday's winds knocked out everything, even the snappers in the river.

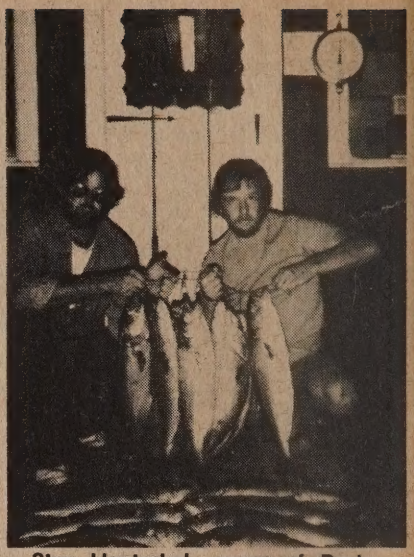
PORT JEFFERSON

The Betty W reports blackfishing continues to steadily improve. Bob Olsen had 12 blacks up to 4 lbs. Saturday's pool ran 7½ lbs for a jumbo blackfish which fell to a fiddler crab. Porgies are still plentiful, hitting on clam.

Caraftis Fishing Station reported the rocky bottom off Old Field Pt. is a good bet for plenty of porgies and blackfish. Blues were active at buoys 9 and 11 and Cranes Neck. Snapper blues are nice size but are becoming scarcer by the week. Bass fishing last week was slow with only a few small fish taken.

NORTHPORT

Fred at **Chain Locker** reports bluefish in the harbor in the rain on Saturday, Sunday and Monday in the morning hours prior to boat traffic. Best method has been snagging the



Stan Hentschel, owner of Rocky Point Fishing Stop, and Tom Brady with 30 blues to eight pounds, caught on plugs at the Middle Grounds.

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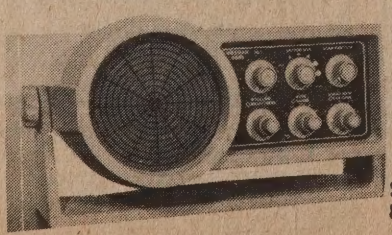

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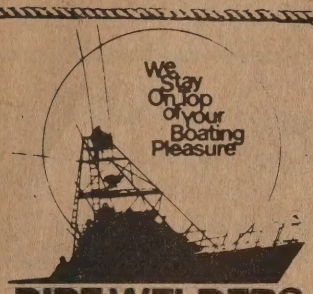

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Ron LiBrando of the Long Beach Striper Club shows 57-1/2 lb. bass taken from the Cape Cod surf.

bunker and leaving them on the snag with the blues then pouncing. Later on in the morning, poppers are employed. Fred says you can pull fish in until you are arm weary. At 11B blues are also surcoming to bunker chum and bunker chunks. Blackfish on the east side of Eaton's Neck from the shoreline to the East Bar and also 11B on green crabs, fiddlers and clam. These are three to five pound blacks. Porgies still at the Lilco Loading Platform, weather permitting, on clam. Sand porgies all over the harbor on clam, worm and small piece of porgy belly. Flounders in Duck Island Harbor and Northport Bay on worm.

Bowman's Sporting Goods reports that on Thurs. and Fri. blues were being picked up in the Northport Harbor area under schools of bunker. Cold Spring Harbor has also had some good bluefishing. There is no set time when these fish are feeding and you have to luck out to get into a blitz. These fish are hitting bunker best but are also being taken on plugs. Bluefish were being wire lined with umbrellas or bunker at buoy 11B at Eaton's Neck Coast Guard Sta. A few bass were taken off the beach but as of this report no real action has started yet. Blackfish are making a good showing at buoy 11B and are taking green crabs. A few flounder are starting to show at the town docks and off the beaches. Porgies should be leaving the areas soon, but there are still big ones left here to catch. Nice sized snappers are still in the area and will also be leaving shortly. They are hitting half ounce metal lures in the harbors and the beaches.

HUNTINGTON

Four Winds Bait and Tackle reports that on Sunday morning three fishermen hit into a bluefish blitz in Cold Spring Harbor. The blitz lasted from 8 A.M. to afternoon. These fish were hitting bunker and ran from 14 to 18 pounds. Big fish were also taken at the town dock with bunker between 2 and 4 A.M. Blackfish are being picked up at buoy 11B on green crabs. These fish are averaging 6 to 7 pounds. A few snappers are still in the area. Flounder fishing is starting to pick up in Northport and Lloyd Harbors and should really shape up in about a week or so.

CITY ISLAND

Jack's Bait and Tackle reported last Sunday one customer half filled a burlap sack with lafayettes fishing right off the float where the partyboats tie up. Blackfishing with fish up to 7 pounds is on the increase. Green crabs and fiddlers are the best baits. We were sorry to hear about the unprepared fisherman who was out for porgies but ended up with bluefish jumping all around him. He figured the blues were gone for the year. Looks like he figured wrong.

GROTON CONN.

Capt. Brad Glas of the **Hel-Cat** reported fantastic bluefishing all last week. Brad said this is the height of the bluefish season. Now is the time! If you want fish, come on down! Last Sunday the boat went offshore and in spite of some very heavy seas, most fares caught 2 bags of fish in approximately 3 hours fishing time. All the fish weighed 10 to 16 pounds. A charter trip one night last week showed just how good the fishing is. Mike Ferrara boated 50 bluefish on that trip all by himself. That is some score. Don't forget, the time is right for bluefishing.

The Second Annual Groton Striped Bass and Bluefish Derby is off and running. The first week's winner in the private boat category was a 17 pounder caught by Alex Rabitaille of Groton. For the second week in the same category, young Ronnie Rudker Jr., also of Groton, caught a 20½ lb. striper to take the honors. In the bluefish division, Alex Pono caught a 16½ lb. bluefish on the **Hel-Cat** to win the first week's award for the largest bluefish caught aboard a partyboat. John W. Slieshman of Noank, fishing aboard his own boat, Lady Luck IV caught an 18 lb. blue to take the lead in the private boat division at the end of the second week of the contest. There are no entry fees involved. The basic requirement is that fish be caught on a private, charterboat or open partyboat that has departed from the town of Groton. Fish must be caught on a rod and reel and weighed in at an official weigh-in station.

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KEEP OUR WATERS CLEAN!

The FISHERMAN CLUB SALTWATER FISHING CONTEST

★ AUGUST CONTEST RESULTS ★

CLUB NAME	★SURF★ BASS	BLUES	WEAKS	★BOAT★ BASS	BLUES	WEAKS	July Pts.	Total Pts.
★MASSACHUSETTS★								
CAPE COD SALTIES	803	170		286	149		1406	3855
PIONEER VALLEY SURF CLUB				250	147	17	414	1935
LINESIDER BASS CLUB				123	72		196	1124
★RHODE ISLAND★								
WOONSOCKET STRIPER CLUB	886	274	22	330	139	6	1857	5261
THE JONAH'S	138			73	140	91	858	3513
OCEAN STATE STRIPER CLUB	405	193			40		638	2841
SOUTH COUNTY ROD & GUN CLUB				380	182	11	563	2199
NARRAGANSETT PIER SPORTFISHING				287	101	10	398	1593
EAST BAY ANGLERS				240	143		383	1413
VFW POST 5392 FISHING CLUB			16				16	1077
RIVERSIDE SPORTFISHING CLUB					147		147	1014
BLACKSTONE VALLEY STRIPER CLUB								253
★CONNECTICUT★								
CONNECTICUT RIVER STRIPED BASS CLUB		216		468	161	50	679	2214
HARTFORD SURF FISHING CLUB		40	16	96	71	15	238	1534
WESTPORT STRIPED BASS CLUB	510	48	44	25	67	14	708	1534
MILFORD STRIPED BASS CLUB	174	176			66		416	1071
DUNHAM SALTIES								102
STRATFORD BOAT OWNERS								42
★NEW YORK★								
LONG BEACH STRIPED BASS CLUB	856	54		355	127		1392	4858
STRIPER SURF CLUB	700	257	136				1093	3892
LONG ISLAND STRIPER CLUB	776	240		248			1264	3781
EMPIRE STRIPER ASSN.	200	210	50	221	141	77	899	3396
HUNTINGTON ANGLERS				403	131	84	618	2944
KINGS BAY STRIPER CLUB		230	14	225	158	77	704	2737
NORTH SHORE ANGLERS				416	145	30	591	1897
PATCHOGUE FISHING CLUB					62		62	1502
BEACH COMBER SURF & FUN CLUB		262	28		44		334	1487
FARRAGUT STRIPER CLUB	68	50	66				184	1033
STATEN ISLAND SURF CLUB		68				7	75	1008
SKUNKED AGAIN FISHING ASSN.	88		18	76	144	63	389	940
CAUSEWAY FISHING CLUB	106		42	36		6	190	936
EASTERN ANGLERS					145	14	159	915
MANHASSETT BAY SPORTSMENS CLUB		76		34	159		269	845
SOUND & SURF FISHING CLUB					90	75	165	805
BABYLON TUNA CLUB					81	48	129	774
SURFERS OF LONG ISLAND				112	58		170	622
HAMPTON'S SURF CLUB	32	96			49		177	621
GREAT SOUTH BAY ANGLERS		18	10	15	112	80	235	579
BAY END STRIPER CLUB					86	10	96	544
MILL RIVER ROD & GUN				25	147	20	192	527
BAYVIEW ROD & GUN CLUB		138	20				158	404
NEW ANGLERS		70			98		168	347
No. BROOKHAVEN SPORTFISHING CLUB	96	22	116		22	61	317	317
CENTER ANGLERS					50		50	286
FISHING BUGS OF BROOKLYN						91	91	243
SURF & SEA ANGLERS		50			94		144	239
HUNGERLEIDER FISHING CLUB					109		109	109
OTHER PLACE ANGLERS					49		49	90
FREEPORT TUNA CLUB								21
FISHING POST					14		14	14
★PENNSYLVANIA★								
DELAWARE VALLEY SURF ANGLERS								103
N. PHILA. SURF FISHING CLUB								22
★NEW JERSEY★								
ASBURY PARK FISHING CLUB	638	74	110				933	3493
BERKELEY STRIPER CLUB		205	14		111		281	1856
LONG BRANCH FISHING CLUB	30		102		82		148	1137
BRUNSWICK SURF CLUB					16		61	511
HUDSON RIVER FISHERMENS ASSN.					61	67	78	480
NOR'EAST STRIPER CLUB					11			256
COLUMBIA								105
L.B.I. SURF ANGLERS ASSN.								20

The Top Ten

CLUB NAME	STATE	TOTAL PTS.
1. WOONSOCKET STRIPER CLUB	RHODE ISLAND	5261
2. LONG BEACH STRIPED BASS CLUB	NEW YORK	4858
3. STRIPER SURF CLUB	NEW YORK	3892
4. CAPE COD SALTIES	MASSACHUSETTS	3855
5. LONG ISLAND STRIPER CLUB	NEW YORK	3781
6. THE JONAH'S	RHODE ISLAND	3513
7. ASBURY PARK FISHING CLUB	NEW JERSEY	3493
8. EMPIRE STRIPER ASSN.	NEW YORK	3395
9. HUNTINGTON ANGLERS	NEW YORK	2944
10. KINGS BAY STRIPER CLUB	NEW YORK	2737

HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	Breakwater Harbor AM	Breakwater Harbor PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGE-PORT AM	BRIDGE-PORT PM	NEW-PORT AM	NEW-PORT PM	DATE
THUR.	9:36	9:57	10:34	10:54	10:27	10:47	11:17	11:41	1:21	1:26	12:56	1:13	9:42	10:02	9/29
FRI.	10:19	10:39	11:15	11:34	11:11	11:31	11:59	—	1:44	1:47	1:37	1:52	10:20	10:42	9/30
SAT.	11:01	11:22	11:54	—	11:51	—	12:26	12:41	2:06	2:16	2:16	2:34	11:00	11:24	10/1
SUN.	11:46	—	12:16	12:37	12:14	12:36	1:11	1:26	2:37	2:53	3:01	3:17	11:40	—	10/2
MON.	12:07	12:36	1:01	1:24	1:02	1:21	2:01	2:16	3:17	3:36	3:48	4:07	12:08	12:22	10/3
TUE.	1:01	1:29	1:51	2:18	1:47	2:03	2:56	3:10	4:05	4:23	4:39	5:00	12:56	1:10	10/4
WED.	1:59	2:27	2:49	3:16	2:39	4:53	3:57	4:09	4:57	5:19	5:37	5:59	1:47	2:02	10/5
THUR.	2:58	3:24	3:51	4:16	3:34	3:51	4:54	5:06	5:59	6:18	6:35	6:57	2:46	3:01	10/6

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet.....—0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6 ½ hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	—0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	—0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	—0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	—0 12
Seaside Park	—0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	—0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	—0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	—0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	—0 02
Rehoboth Beach	—0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	—0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	—0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	—0 38
Democrat Point	—0 38
Coast Guard Station	—0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	—0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	—0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	—0 08
Herod Point	—0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	—0 20
Truman Beach	—0 42
Falkner Island	—0 13
Sachem Head	—0 10
Branford Harbor	—0 07
New Haven Harbor	—0 08
Milford Harbor	—0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	—0 03
Saugatuck River	—0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	—0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	—0 14
Montauk Inlet	—0 25
Montauk Point	—1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	—0 33
Noank, Mystic River	—0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	—0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higganum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	—0 10
Execution Light	—0 06
Manhasset Bay	—0 01
Hempstead Harbor	—0 11
City Island	—0 03
Rye Beach	—0 28
Port Chester	—0 09
Mamaroneck	—0 08
New Rochelle	—0 24
Davids Island	—0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	—0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	—0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	—0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	—0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	—0 08
Point Judith Harbor	—0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	—0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

SUNRISE/SUNSET

9/3	6:27	7:31
9/8	6:32	7:22
9/13	6:38	7:14
9/18	6:43	7:05
9/23	6:48	6:56
9/28	6:53	6:47

PHASES OF THE MOON

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
9/13	9/20	9/27	9/5

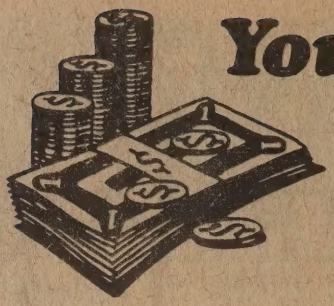
The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM Minor	AM Major	PM Minor	PM Major
THURS.	12:55	7:35	1:30	8:05
FRI.	1:45	8:25	2:20	8:50
SAT.	2:35	9:15	3:05	9:40
SUN.	3:25	10:00	3:55	10:25
MON.	4:10	10:45	4:40	11:05
TUES.	4:55	11:25	5:20	11:50
WED.	5:35	—	6:05	12:15
THURS.	6:25	12:30	6:45	1:05

DON'T LET THIS ONE GET AWAY!



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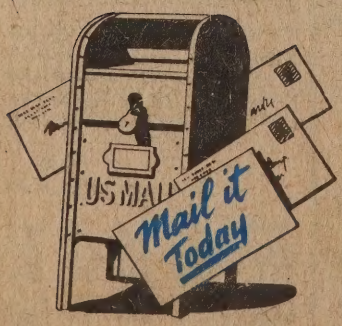
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